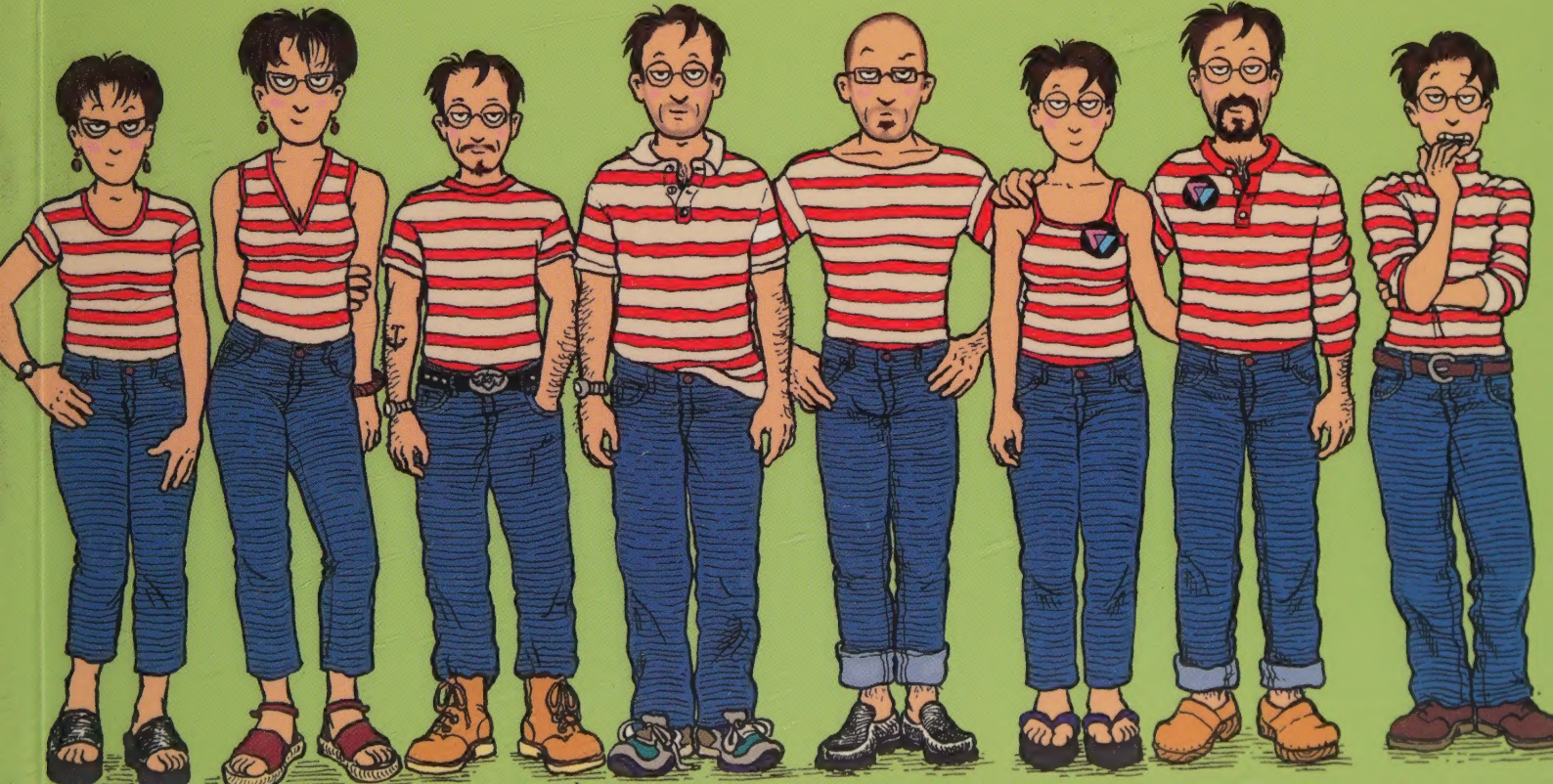


post-

# Dykes To Watch Out For

by Alison Bechdel





# post- **Dykes To Watch Out For**

**by Alison Bechdel**



**Firebrand  
Books**

Ithaca, New York

Alison Bechdel's cartoons appear regularly in over sixty publications internationally.

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**for Nancy Bereano**

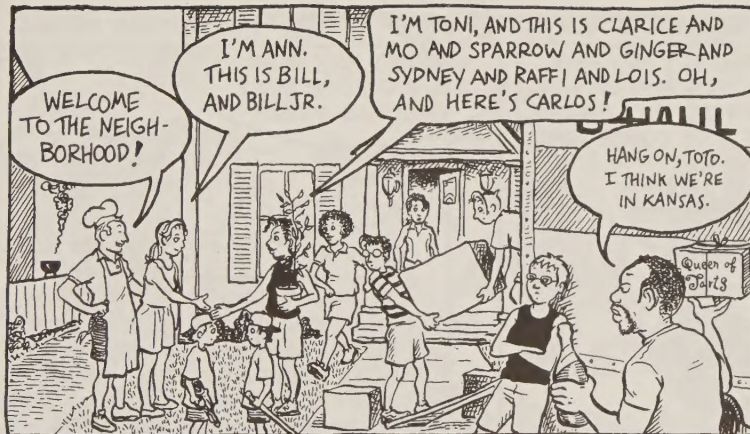
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WHEN WE LAST LOOKED IN, SOME OF OUR SUBJECTS HAD VEERED A BIT TOO CLOSE TO THE RIM OF THAT VAST CAULDRON OF PROCESSED CHEESE SPREAD OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GREAT AMERICAN MELTING POT.



YES, CLARICE, STAFF ATTORNEY FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FUND,...



HER PARTNER **TONI**, FREEDOM TO MARRY ACTIVIST,...

AND THEIR FIVE-YEAR OLD, **RAFFI**, HAVE LEFT THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD AND MOVED TO SUBURBIA.



MEANWHILE, HOUSEMATES **GINGER**, **SPARROW**, AND **LOIS** ARE ABOUT TO SET THE COMMUNAL LIVING ENDURANCE RECORD... AND THEY'RE SIGNING ON FOR ANOTHER HITCH!



THEIR COMMUNE EXPANDS BY ONE WHEN **STUART**, SPARROW'S NEW, RATHER MASCULINE PARAMOUR, NEEDS NEW DIGS.





©AFTER A DISHEARTENING STINT ON THE JOB MARKET, GINGER ACCEPTS A POSITION IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF BUFFALO LAKE STATE COLLEGE...

...©A MERE 105 MINUTE COMMUTE AWAY...

SO I HEAR YOU FINALLY GOT A **REAL** JOB.

DR. REYNOLDS, I MAY HAVE MADE A FRACTION OF YOUR SALARY HERE, BUT I TAUGHT **TWICE** YOUR COURSE LOAD. YOU CAN KISS MY ADJUNCT ASS GOODBYE.

A TIP O' THE NIB TO DR. BON!

©SPARROW RUNS THE LOCAL BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER...

MARLENE'S KIDS NEED TO BE PICKED UP AND I CAN'T FIND A CAR.

No hitting

THE NEXT HOTLINE VOLUNTEER'S NOT HERE AND I HAVE TO LEAVE.

TAKE MINE.

THIS WOMAN'S HUSBAND'S VIOLATING HIS RELIEF FROM ABUSE ORDER AND THE POLICE AREN'T RESPONDING.

TELL HER TO INSIST ON SPEAKING TO DETECTIVE CATALANO.

JOANNE CAN COVER. TELL HER TO FORGET PLUNGING THE TOILET.

...©AND LOIS CONTINUES TO HONE HER MARKETING EXPERTISE AT THAT AUGUST EMPORIUM OF THE PRINTED WORD AND OTHER SUNDRIES, **MADWIMMIN BOOKS**.

THIS MODEL REALLY ROCKS IF IT FITS BOTH PEOPLE RIGHT.

THE ULTIMATE ANAL GUIDE TO SEX FOR WOMEN

DIESEL GRUEL POIMS

©SALES HAVE BEEN LANGUISHING AT MADWIMMIN, WHERE BOSS **JEZANNA** AND HUMBLE CLERK **MO** PLUCKILY STAFF THE BARRICADES AGAINST THE CORPORATE BLITZKRIEG.

SORRY I'M LATE, JEZ.

DOESN'T MATTER. HARDLY ANYONE'S BEEN IN. THEY'RE PROBABLY ALL AT BUNNS AND NOODLE, DUNKING BISCOTTI OVER THE LATEST GLOSSIES.

OFFICE

PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY MEDIA CONGLOMERATE BERTELSMANN ACQUIRES RANDOM HOUSE



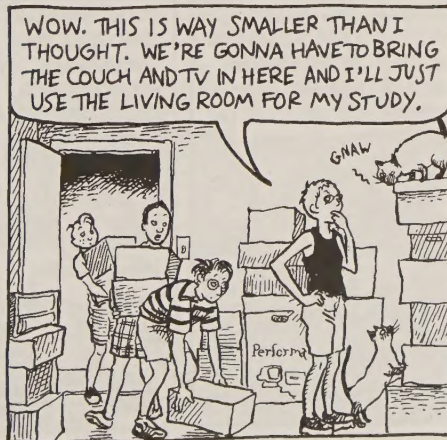
Mo's  
OFF-DUTY LIFE  
HAS BEEN  
FRAUGHT WITH  
FINANCIAL  
SUSPENSE  
AS WELL,  
EVER SINCE  
SHE BECAME  
AFFILIATED  
WITH **SYDNEY**,  
WOMEN'S STUDIES  
PROFESSOR AND  
WORLD CLASS  
SPENDTHRIFT.



NEVER  
RELUCTANT TO  
SOLVE THE  
PROBLEMS  
OF OTHERS,  
MO  
PROPOSES  
COHABITATION...



...AND  
SYDNEY  
MOVES  
IN,  
LOCK,  
STOCK,  
AND  
TENURE  
TRACK.



WILL MO  
COME TO  
HER SENSES?

WILL  
MADWIMMIN  
BOOKS  
GO THE WAY  
OF  
FULL-SERVICE  
GAS?



WILL CLARICE,  
TONI, AND RAFFI  
RETAIN THEIR  
DISTINCTIVE TEXTURES,  
OR BE ASSIMILATED  
WHOLESALE  
INTO THE AMERICAN  
CHEESE FONDUE?

PONY UP  
FOR THE DAMN  
BOOK ALREADY  
AND FIND OUT.

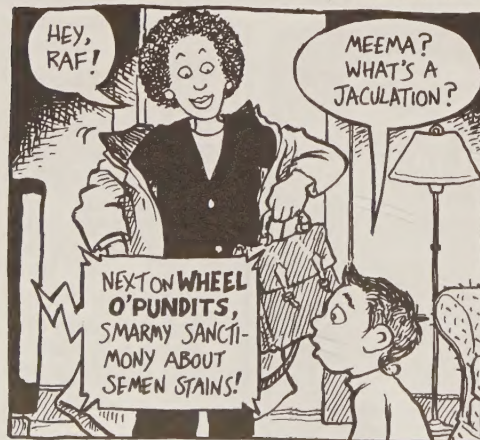
enough already

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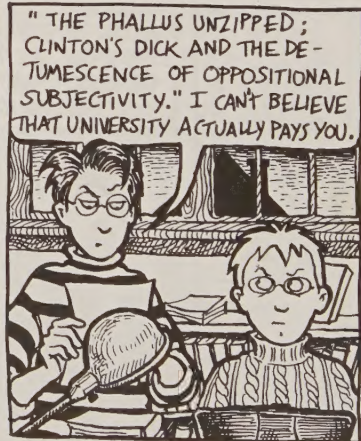
298

GET OUT  
YOUR  
ROLODEX.  
AS WE  
REJOIN OUR  
WANDERING  
NARRATIVE,  
THERE  
SEEM TO BE  
A FEW  
CHANGES OF  
ADDRESS.

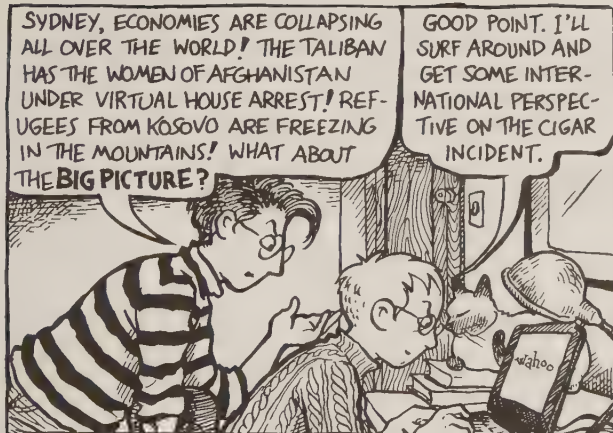
CLARICE AND TONI HAVE EMIGRATED TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRACKS.



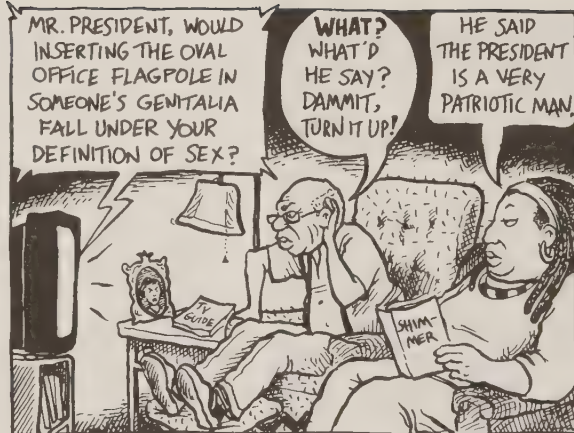
SYDNEY HAS  
BECOME  
MO'S  
NOT-SO-  
DOMESTIC  
PARTNER.



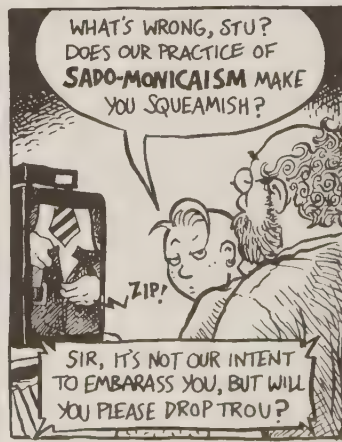
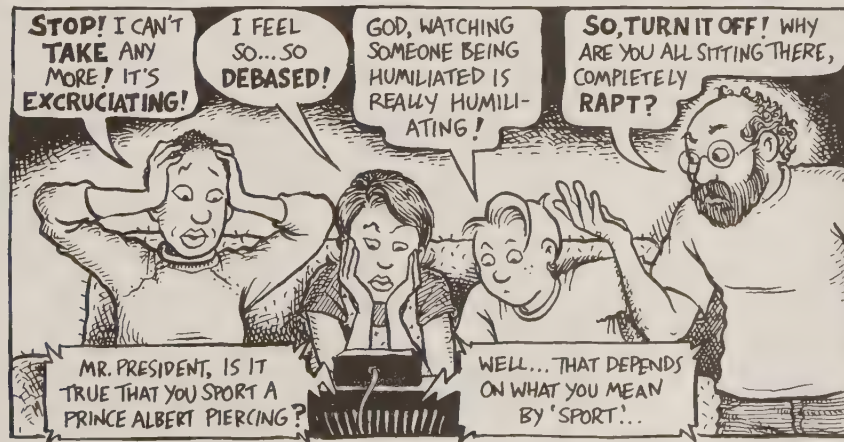




JEZANNA, IN A GRUDGING ACT OF FILIAL DUTY, HAS OPENED UP HER HOME TO HER BEREAVED FATHER.



AND IN A QUASI-MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE, STUART HAS TAKEN LODGINGS WITH SPARROW AND THE GIRLS.

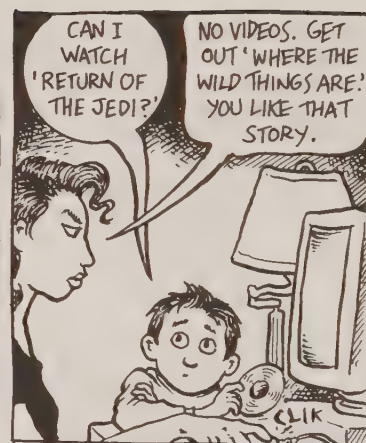


# youth wants to know

RAFFI'S  
BEEN  
MANI-  
FESTING  
SOME  
CURIOUS  
NEW  
TRAITS  
SINCE  
KINDER-  
GARTEN  
BEGAN.

299

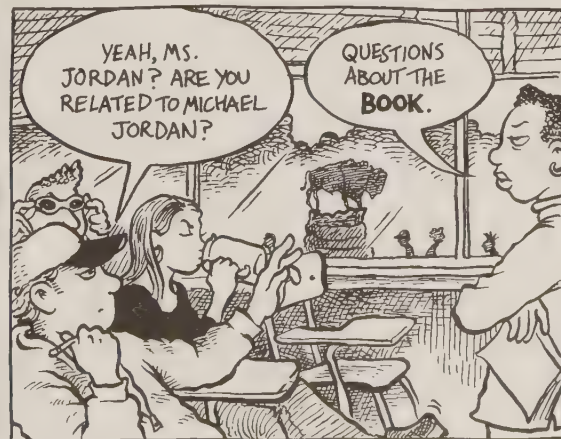
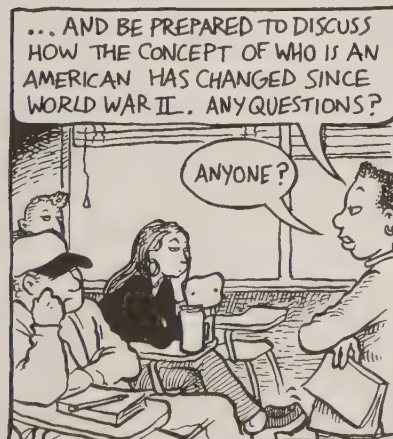
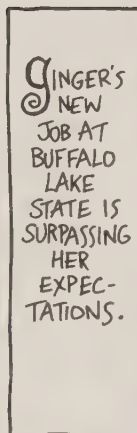
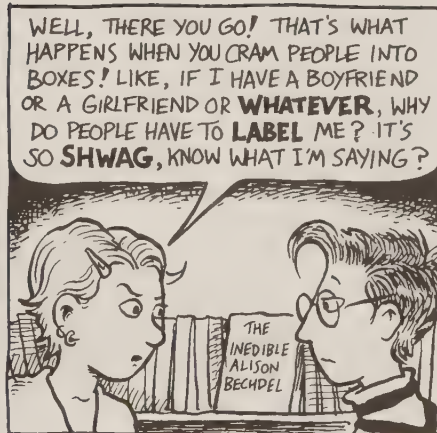
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@AT  
MADWIMMIN  
BOOKS,  
MO'S  
SHOWING  
THE ROPES  
TO  
SOPHIE,  
THE NEW  
INTERN.





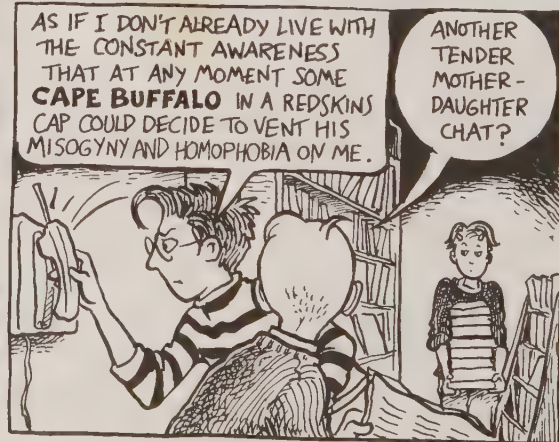


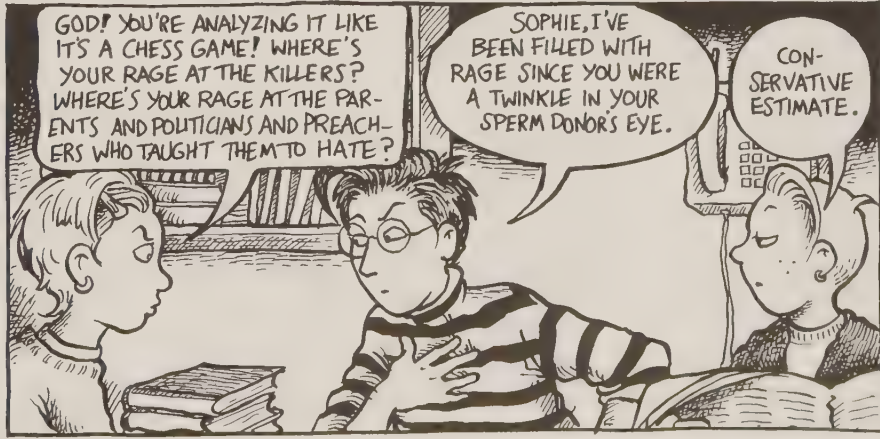
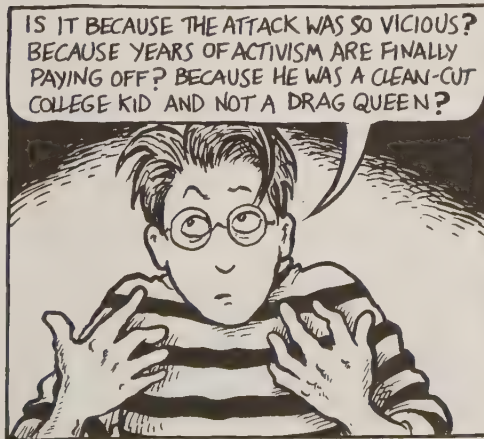
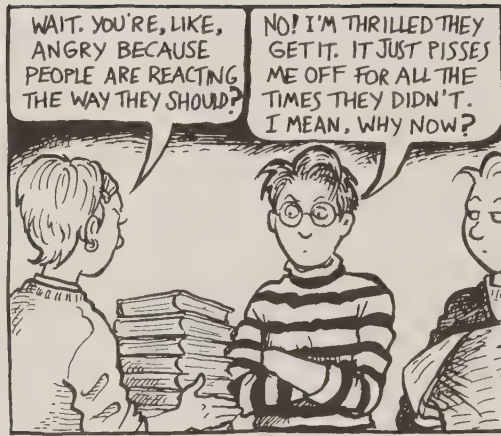
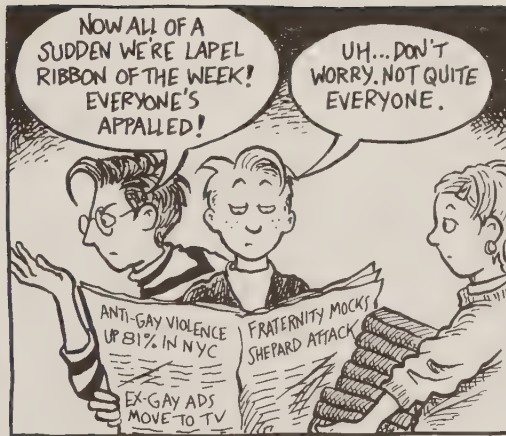
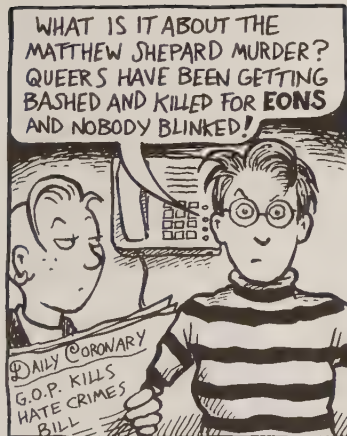
# The BIRTH of OUTRAGE

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Mom's  
MATER-  
FAMILIAS  
RINGS UP  
DURING  
BUSINESS  
HOURS.

300







# buyer's remorse

©1998 BY ALISON BECHDEL

ONE AUTUMNAL TUESDAY EVE...

WELL, **THAT** WAS UNPLEASANT. BUT IT HAD TO BE DONE.

OH, THANKS, LOIS! SINCE GINGER STARTED HER NEW JOB, THE DOG SHIT'S REALLY BEEN PILING UP OUT THERE.

UH... I WASN'T CLEANING UP THE YARD. I JUST CAME FROM THE POLLS.

MMM. THAT **WAS** A NASTY BUSINESS.

301

MAY THE LORD HAVE MERCY ON MY SOUL. I VOTED FOR EVERY MARGINALLY LESSER EVIL ON THE TICKET.

YEAH, ME TOO. AND I'M GETTING PRETTY SICK OF THIS ROTTEN TWO-PARTY DEAL. IT'S GOT TO GO.

MAYBE IT'LL FINALLY HAPPEN, NOW THAT CLINTON'S TOTALLED THE DEMOCRATS, AND THE REPUBLICANS ARE LOST SOMEWHERE BETWEEN LEVITICUS AND THE 19TH CENTURY.

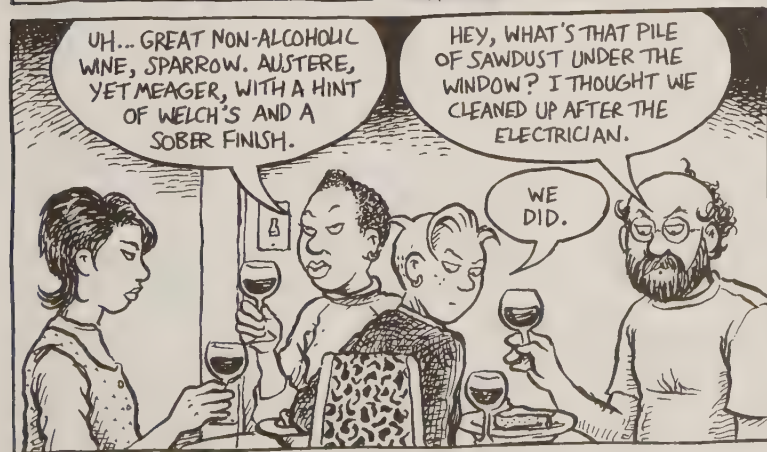
I DON'T KNOW. I'M LOSING FAITH IN PEOPLE'S COMMON SENSE. LIKE, WILL YOU EXPLAIN TO ME WHAT THESE LESBIAN AND GAY GROUPS ARE DOING IN BED WITH CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICANS?

ARF?

HRC ENDORSES ANTI-CHOICE DAMATO  
"WE'D RATHER HAVE GAYS IN THE MILITARY THAN GUN CONTROL"  
EGGS

QUICHE





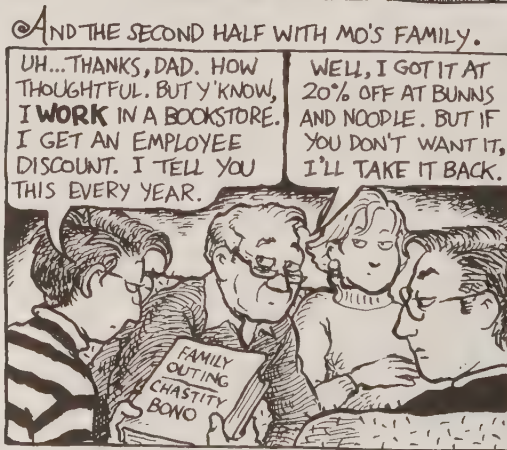
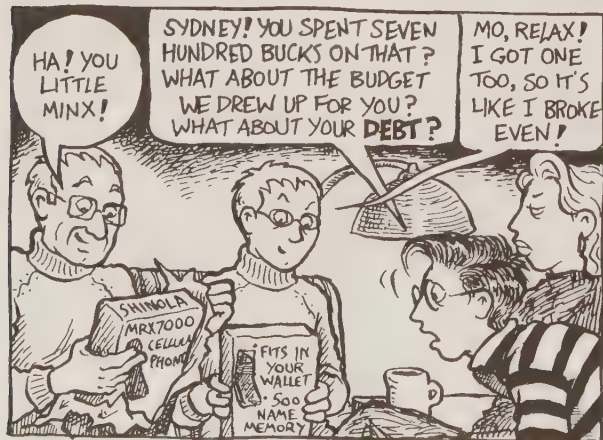
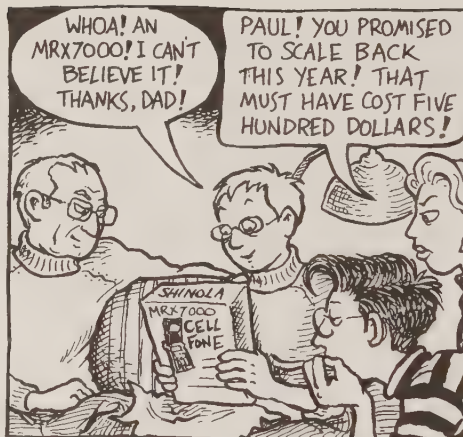
# the DRAMA of the GIFTED CHILD



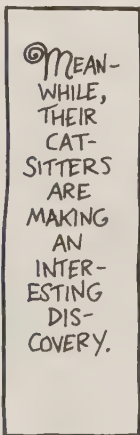
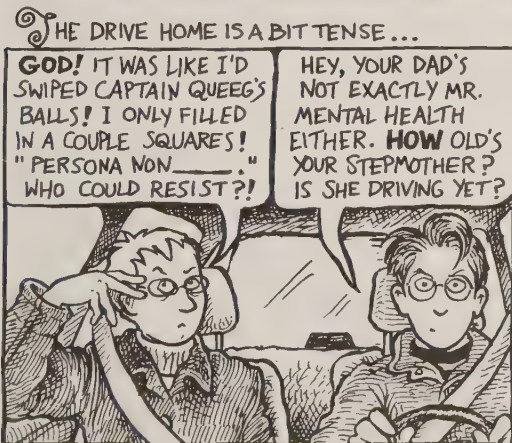
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302

MO AND SYDNEY DECIDE TO SPEND THE FIRST HALF OF THEIR CHRISTMAS VACATION WITH SYDNEY'S FATHER AND STEP-MOTHER.







...like  
it's  
1999

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IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE.  
MO AND  
SYDNEY  
HAVE JUST  
RETURNED  
FROM  
VISITING  
THEIR  
FAMILIES,  
AND IN CON-  
SEQUENCE  
ARE FEEL-  
ING A BIT  
FRACTIOUS.

303

JEEZ, SPARROW AND  
STU DIDN'T CLEAN  
OUT THE CAT BOX  
**ONCE** WHILE THEY  
WERE HERE.

GOD, MY KEYBOARD'S  
ALL STICKY. LOOKS  
LIKE THEY WERE MES-  
SING AROUND ON MY  
COMPUTER, TOO.



THEY LEFT  
THIS INVITA-  
TION TO THEIR  
NEW YEAR'S EVE  
PARTY. WANNA  
GO?

UH... SURE. I HOPE  
THEY DIDN'T GO  
SNOOPING IN  
MY FILES.



MEANWHILE, PARTY PREPARATIONS ARE AFOOT...

SYDNEY'S HAVING  
A VIRTUAL AFFAIR?  
WHO CARES? AND  
WHAT WERE YOU  
DOING ON HER  
COMPUTER?

IT'S MY FAULT. I WAS  
LOOKING FOR GAMES.  
YOU KNOW, NASCAR  
RACING! SOLITAIRE!  
BUT IN THE FOLDER  
LABELED 'GAMES...'

...THERE WERE ALL  
THESE LOGS OF WILD  
ONLINE SEX WITH  
ANOTHER WOMAN.  
SOMEONE NAMED  
'GOODTHING.'

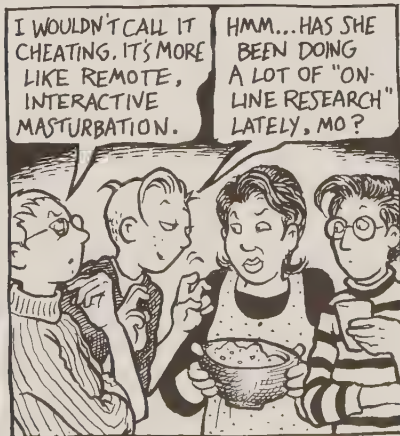
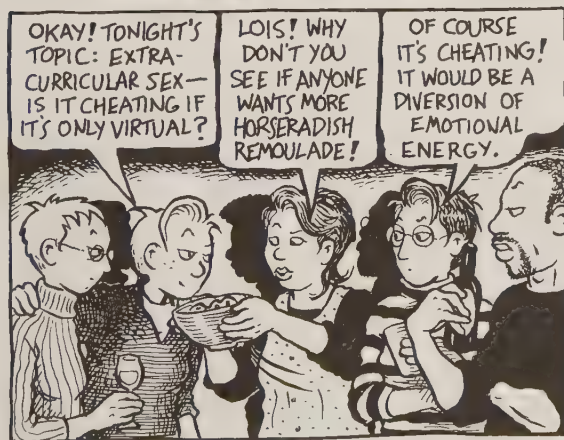
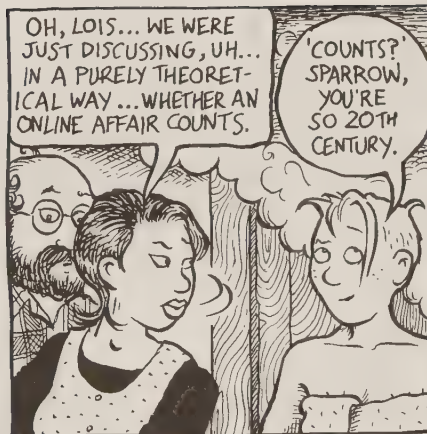


HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S A  
WOMAN? FOR ALL YOU KNOW,  
IT COULD BE CHRISTINE TODD  
WHITMAN. BESIDES WHICH, IT'S  
NONE OF OUR BUSINESS.

OH. SO IF STUART HAD  
SOME BIMBO OVER WHILE  
I WAS AWAY, YOU  
WOULDN'T BOTHER  
MENTIONING IT TO ME?





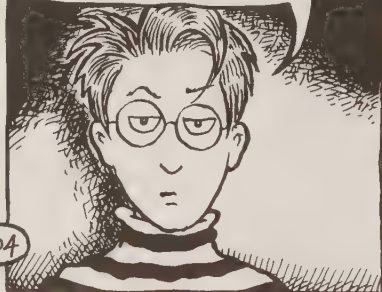


# leadership vacuum

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304

HEY, HOW'S IT GOING? LISTEN, I HAVE TO ASK YOU TO BEAR WITH US. WE'RE EXPERIENCING SOME TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE STRIP.



THE CARTOONIST SEEMS TO BE SUFFERING FROM A TOUCH OF THE VAPORS.

HA HA! RULE OF LAW!

COUP D'ÉTAT! COUP D'ÉTAT! COUP D'ÉTAT!

YOU'RE TRAMPLING THE CONSTITUTION!

AM NOT! YOU ARE!



HA!

IT'S BEEN A ROUGH WEEK, WHAT WITH ALL THE BREAKING NEWS.

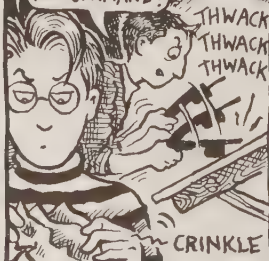
NINA? COKIE? CAN YOU HEAR ME?



WHEN WE STARTED OUT, THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HAD JUST PASSED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT.

NOT GERMANE!

THWACK THWACK THWACK



CRINKLE

THIS REPUBLICAN LYNCH MOB JUST WANTS PAY-BACK FOR EVERY SHRED OF SOCIAL PROGRESS THAT'S BEEN MADE IN THE LAST 30 YEARS!

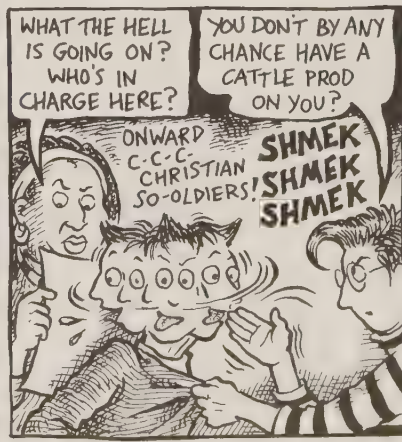
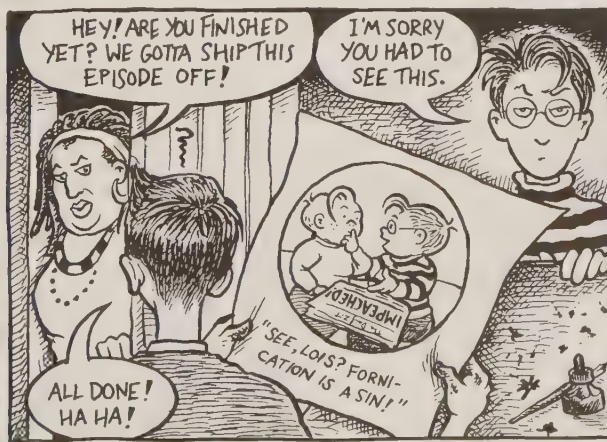
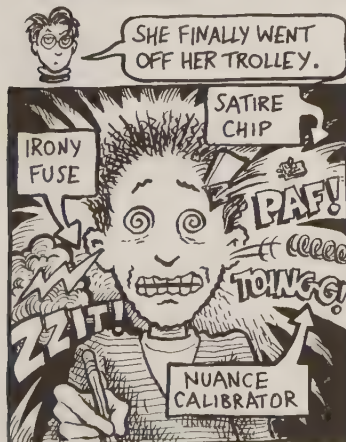
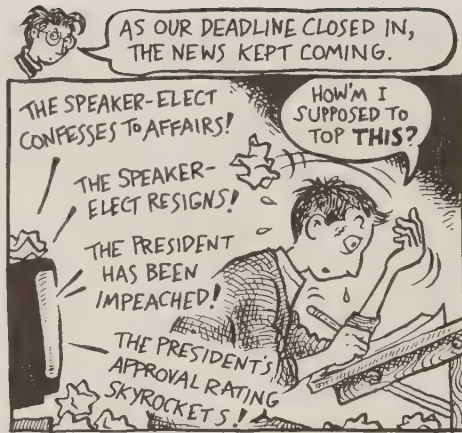
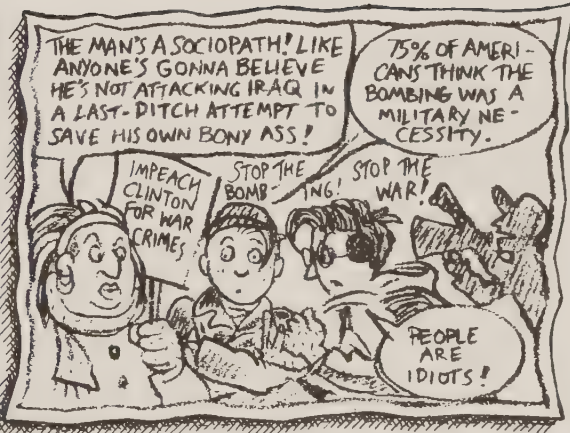
THEY'RE, LIKE, RUNNING AMUCK! LOOK AT THE POLLS! 75% OF AMERICANS WANT CENSURE, NOT IMPEACHMENT!



PEOPLE AREN'T STUPID!



BUT THEN CLINTON DECIDED TO BUY SOMETIME BY BLOWING UP BAGHDAD, SO IT WAS BACK TO THE, UH... DRAWING BOARD.





# the baby question

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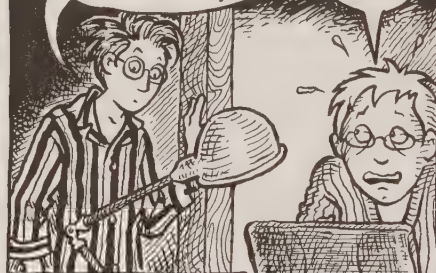
305

WHAT'S  
SYDNEY  
DOING ON  
HER  
COMPUTER  
SO LATE AT  
NIGHT?



SPANKY\*? STOP  
FOOLING AROUND  
WITH YOUR E-MAIL AND  
COME TO BED!

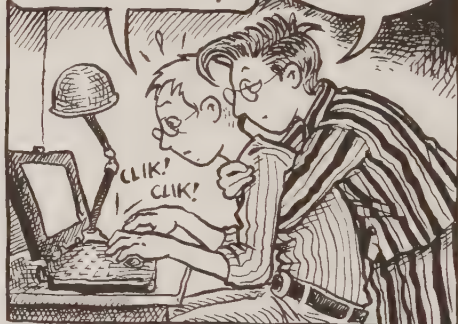
AAAAH!



\*SECRET PET NAME

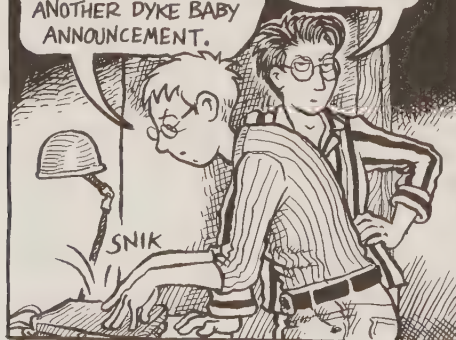
GOD, I THOUGHT YOU  
WERE ASLEEP! YOU  
ALMOST GAVE ME  
A HEART ATTACK!

SORRY.  
GOT ANYTHING  
INTERESTING?



OH... NOT REALLY.  
I WAS JUST, UH...  
RESPONDING TO YET  
ANOTHER DYKE BABY  
ANNOUNCEMENT.

SHEESH. I  
GOT **TWO**  
THIS WEEK.

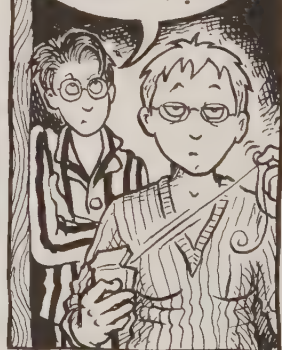


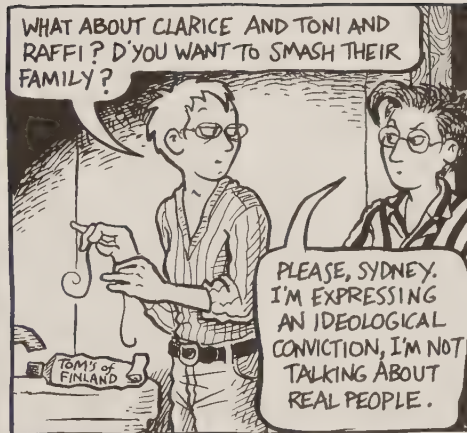
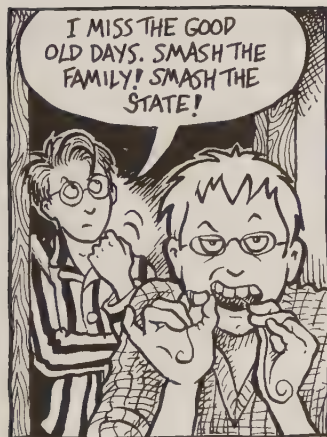
"JESS AND B.J. ARE THRILLED  
TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL  
OF L'IL **XENA KAHLUA**. SHE  
WEIGHED IN AT 18 POUNDS, 5  
OUNCES, AND WAS 7 INCHES  
LONG." WHATEVER.

WHY DO THEY ALWAYS  
TELL YOU HOW BIG IT  
WAS? SO YOU CAN IMAGINE  
**EXACTLY** HOW  
PAINFUL IT MUSTA BEEN  
TO SQUEEZE OUT?



WHAT IS **WITH**  
THIS BREEDING  
FRENZY?



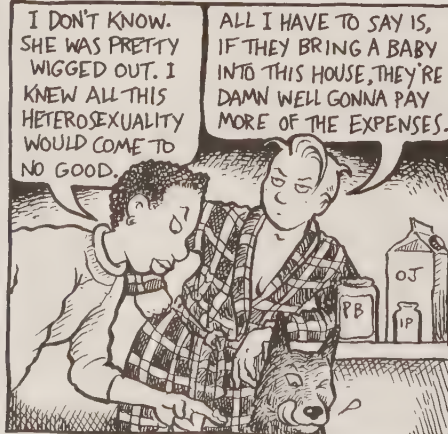
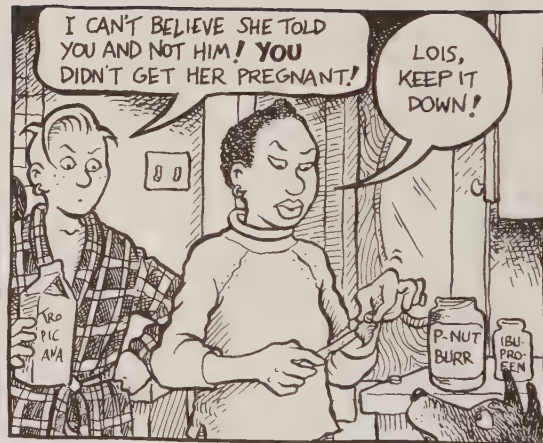




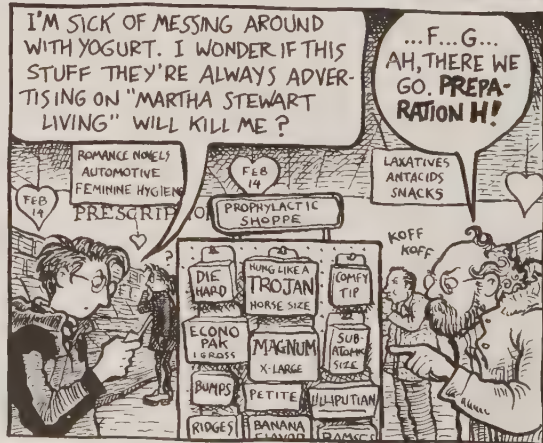
# drugstore cowpokes

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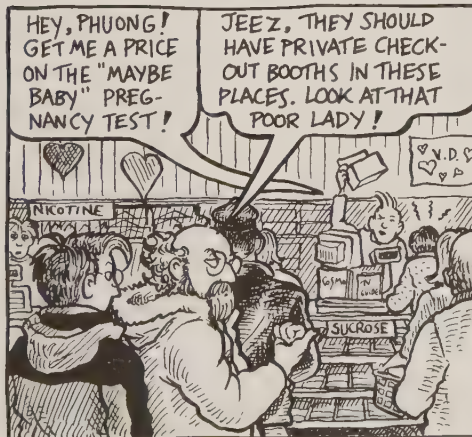
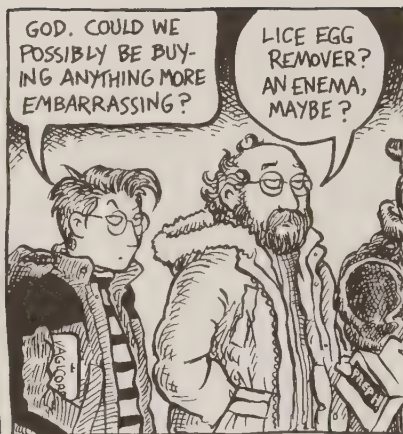
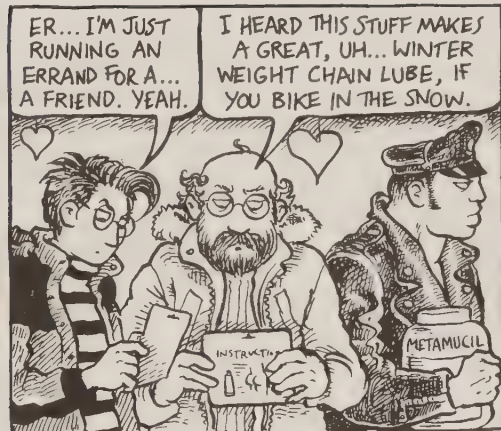
ONE SNOWY SATURDAY MORN...



MEANWHILE, DOWN AT THE LOCAL PHARMACY...

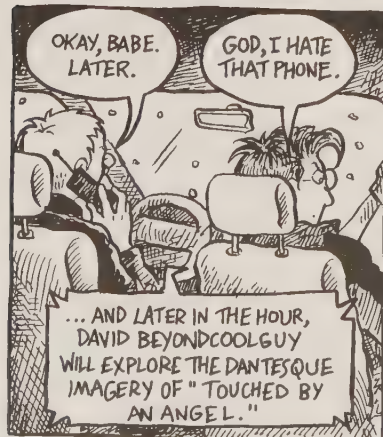
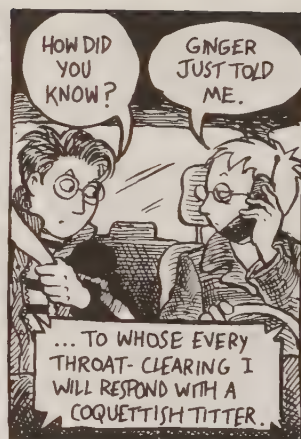






# Gossip Failure

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YOU THINK IT DOESN'T? JUST WAIT TILL THOUSANDS OF DIVERSE, LOVINGLY TENDED INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES GET REPLACED BY GENERIC CHAINS, SUBLITERATE **BEAN COUNTER** DOWN AT CORPORATE HQ SELECTING ALL THE TITLES!



YOU CAN SAY GOODBYE TO BOOKS BY RISKY OR UNPROVEN AUTHORS, LIKE THE ONES I'VE BEEN HAND-SELLING OUR CUSTOMERS FOR YEARS. WE'LL ALL BE UP TO OUR **CEREBRAL CORTEXES** IN "CELINE DION'S TITANIC CHEESECAKE RECIPES!"



AND DON'T COME WHINING TO ME ABOUT THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY WHEN NO ONE WILL PUBLISH YOUR **SCATHING INDICTMENT** OF THE BOOK INDUSTRY!



OKAY, OKAY! I'M ON YOUR SIDE! DON'T GET YOUR JOCKEYS IN A KNOT.

A BIT LATER...

WELL, LOOK WHO'S SLUMMING! WHAT BRINGS YOU THREE IN FROM THE LAND OF CHEMLAWN?



NICE TO SEE THE INCREASED COMPETITION HASN'T AFFECTED YOUR CUSTOMER RELATIONS SKILLS.



WE JUST STOPPED IN TO HEAR THE LATEST DISH... ER, I MEAN, TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER.

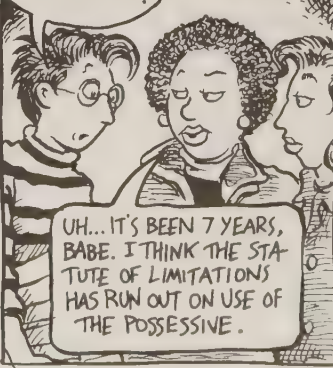


WELL, HAVE I GOT SOME NEWS FOR YOU. GUESS WHO WAS RECENTLY SPOT-TESTED PURCHASING A HOME PREGNANCY TEST?



HARRIET! I KNOW! ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?!

HARRIET? MY HARRIET?



UH... IT'S BEEN 7 YEARS, BABE. I THINK THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN OUT ON USE OF THE POSSESSIVE.

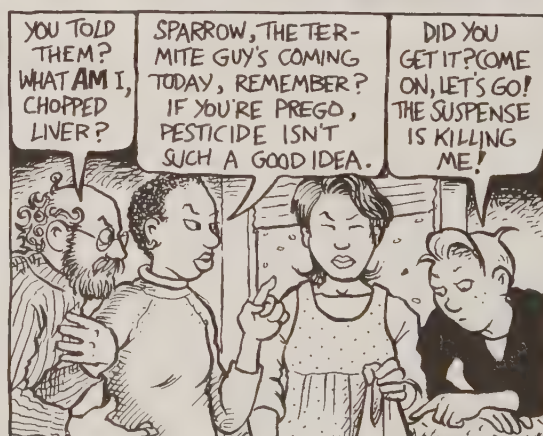
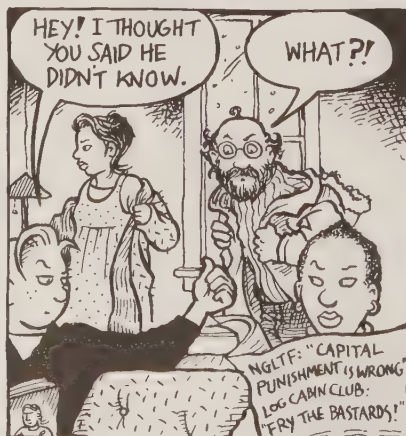


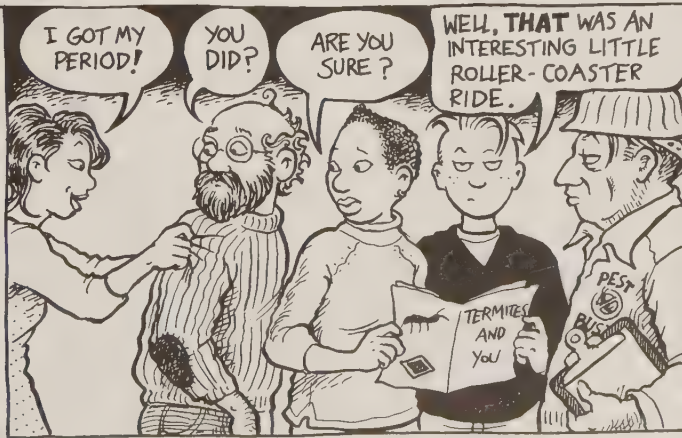
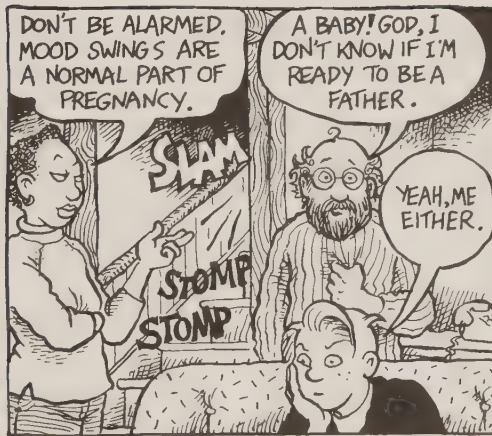
# pestered

SPARROW  
AND  
STUART  
RETURN  
HOME  
TOGETHER  
AFTER A  
CHANCE  
ENCOUNTER  
AT THE DRUG-  
STORE.

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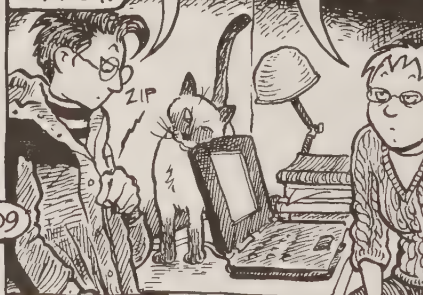
# in the family way

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SORRY TO CANCEL OUR DATE, SWEET PEA. BUT I REALLY HAVE TO SEE HARRIET.

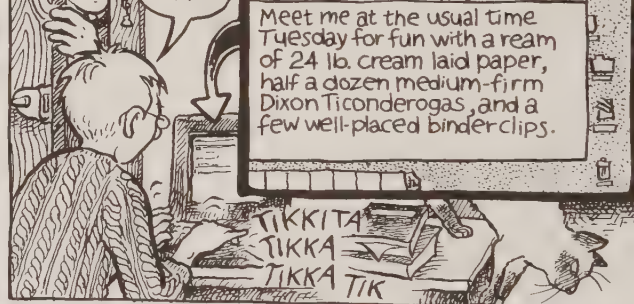
TAKE YOUR TIME. I HAVE A LOT OF PLANNING I NEED TO DO, ANYWAY.

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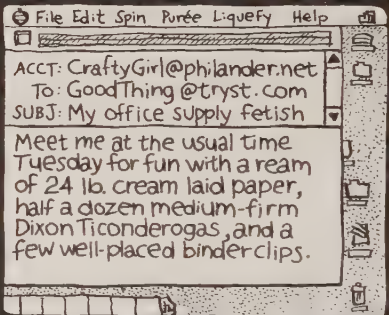


BYE, THEN.

TA.



TIKKI TA  
TIKKA  
TIKKA TIK



A BIT LATER...

WHEN DID YOU PLAN ON TELLING ME, HARRIET? WHEN THE CONTRACTIONS WERE A MINUTE APART?



LOOK, I KNOW YOU HAVE STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT...WELL, ABOUT EVERYTHING. BUT ESPECIALLY ABOUT THIS. I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU TILL AFTER I WAS PREGNANT.

AVAJ  
JONES

SAY IT'S NOT TRUE! TELL ME YOU'RE NOT GONNA BECOME ONE OF THOSE "WE'RE JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE" CLONES!

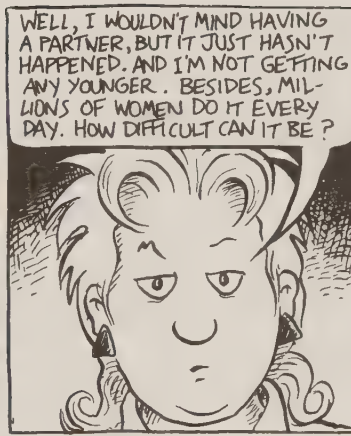
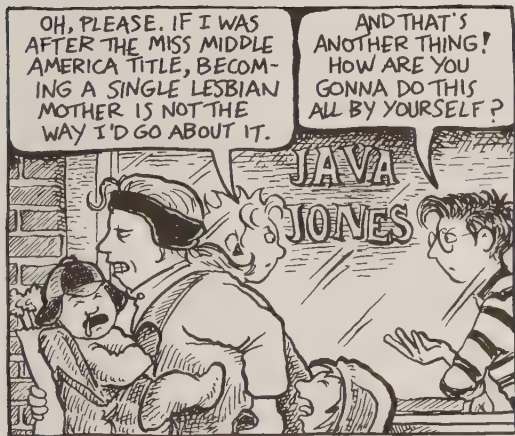


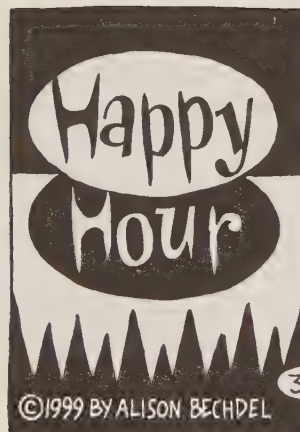
LOOK, THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED. WILL YOU SIT DOWN?

IF THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT WERE SMART, THEY'D CONVERT ALL THOSE EX-GAY OPERATIONS TO LESBIAN-FRIENDLY **SPERM BANKS**. THEY'D HAVE US ALL SO BUSY ECSTATICALLY PUMPING **BREAST MILK**, WE'D NEVER NOTICE THEM TAKING OVER THE WHOLE FREAKING WORLD.









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©Ah...THE DAY'S TOIL IS DONE, AND OUR WEARY LABORERS CAN RELAX IN THE RESTORATIVE CAMARADERIE OF THEIR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AND FAMILY.

©At the 'Y'...

HEY, CARLOS. HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE IN A WHILE.



I KNOW. I GOT A JOB AS A DATA ENTRY GRUNT AT KRAKATOA INSURANCE, WORKING ON THEIR Y2K PROBLEM. LOOK, MY ARMS HAVE TURNED TO CAPELLINI.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT WHAT'LL HAPPEN WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES 12 ON JANUARY FIRST?

OH, I'LL JUST FIND SOME-OTHER DEAD-END JOB, I GUESS.



NO, I MEAN ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT COMPUTER FAILURE, POWER LOSS, LOOTING, PARALYZED EMERGENCY SERVICES, RUNS ON THE BANK...



...THE ACCIDENTAL LAUNCH OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHEN THEIR WARNING SYSTEMS FAIL, THE RELEASE OF LETHAL RADIOACTIVITY INTO THE ATMOSPHERE WHEN THE ELECTRICAL GRID IS OUT FOR MORE THAN A FEW DAYS AND NUCLEAR REACTORS START TO MELT DOWN? THAT SORT OF THING.

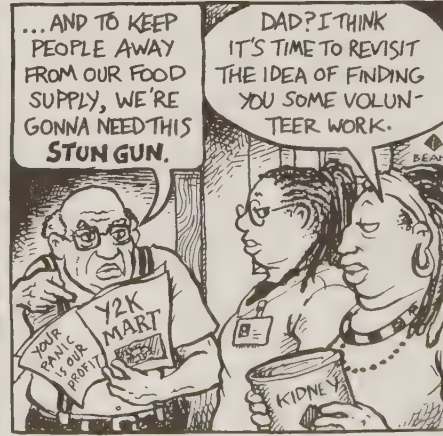
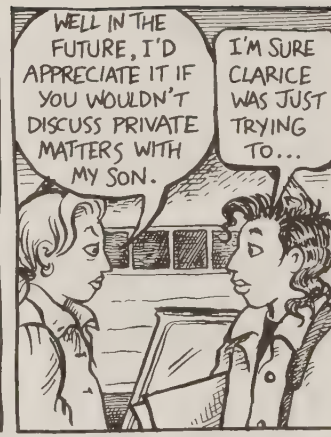


THAT'S THE SPIRIT. NO SENSE IN PANICKING. THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO AT THIS POINT, ANYWAY.



THERE'S NOT?







# the Sensuous Bookshop

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ONE AFTERNOON AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS...

DID YOU FIND  
ABSOLUTELY  
EVERYTHING  
YOU'RE LOOK-  
ING FOR?

UH...  
YES.  
THANKS.  
I'M ALL  
SET.

SO DIANE, I'VE NEVER  
BEEN TO A VEGAN  
SEDER BEFORE. WHAT  
DO WE DO ABOUT  
THE SHANK BONE?

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OPEN  
ME  
CARE-  
FULLY

OH, WE JUST USE PART OF  
AN OLD TOY DINOSAUR  
SKELETON. BUT THE EGG-  
LESS MATZO BALLS ARE  
LIKE EATING LEAD SHOT.

Y'KNOW, IF YOU LIKE  
THIS BOOK, YOU'LL  
LOVE THE NEW EROTICA  
ANTHOLOGY, "HOT AND  
BUTTERED."

LOIS.

EMILY  
DICKIN-  
SON'S  
INTIMATE  
LETTERS

THEA, I'M JUST  
TRYING TO PRO-  
VIDE A SERVICE.

I LIVE TO  
SERVICE. I  
MEAN, TO  
SERVE.

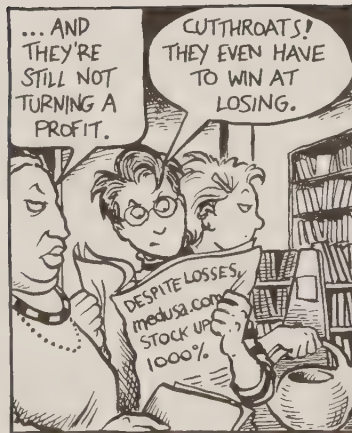
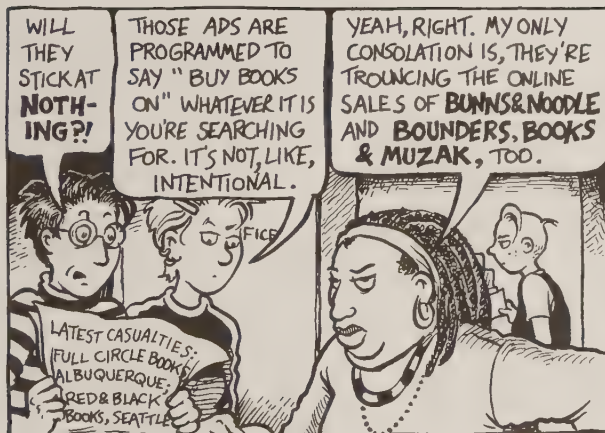
I'LL FINISH THIS.  
WHY DON'T YOU GO  
TIDY UP THE BUMPER  
STICKER DISPLAY.

IN THE BACK...

AFTER I WATER  
THE PLANTS,  
SHOULD I FILL  
THE WEB ORDERS?

DON'T BOTHER. THERE AREN'T  
ANY. AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?  
BECAUSE IF YOU DO A SEARCH  
FOR OUR WEB SITE, AN AD FOR  
THE ONLINE BOOKSELLING  
BEHEMOTH **medusa.com**  
SHOWS UP ON THE PAGE.

IT MAGICALLY SAYS  
"BUY BOOKS ON MADWIMMIN  
BOOKS." CLICK THE LINK,  
AND YOU'RE IN THEIR  
CLUTCHES.





# a just war? or just a war?

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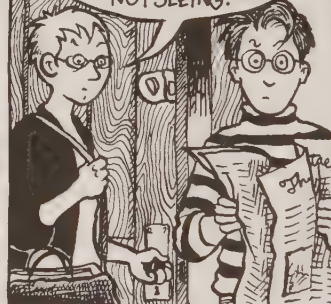
Mo's GOT A TOUCH OF WHIPLASH LATELY.

GOD! HOW CAN YOU LOOK AT THESE PICTURES OF TERRORIZED REFUGEES AND NOT WANT TO GO OVER THERE AND TAKE MILOSEVIC OUT?



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THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WASHINGTON WANTS YOU TO FEEL. MAKES YOU WONDER WHAT PICTURES WE'RE NOT SEEING.

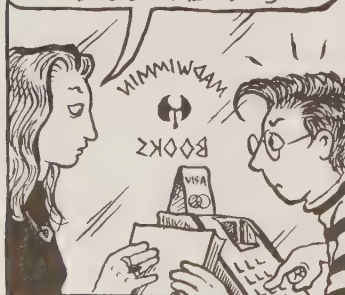


@AT WORK...

WE'RE BEING MANIPULATED BY THE PRESS! WHERE'S THE BALANCED COVERAGE? WHERE'S THE FOOTAGE OF ALL THE CIVILIANS MANGLED BY NATO BOMBS?



UH... DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE LATEST? US JETS MASSACRED A CONVOY OF REFUGEES WITH CLUSTER BOMBS BY MISTAKE. IT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS.



@AT LUNCH...

HAVEN'T WE LEARNED? YOU CAN'T STOP VIOLENCE WITH MORE VIOLENCE! SO FAR, ALL THE BOMBING HAS DONE IS KILL MORE PEOPLE AND ESCALATE THE SERBS' ATROCITIES!

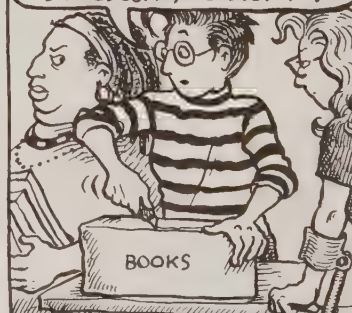


SO WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST? THAT WE SEND A SQUADRON OF **QUAKERS** OVER THERE? FACE IT. LEFTIST CLICHÉS AREN'T GONNA KEEP PEOPLE FROM BEING RAPED AND SHOT AND DRAGGED FROM THEIR HOMES.



@BACK AT WORK...

I MEAN, THIS IS GENOCIDE! WE SHOULD USE WHATEVER FORCE IS NECESSARY TO STOP IT!



"ETHNIC CLEANSING" IS A TERRIBLE THING, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME AS GENOCIDE. AND WHEN OFFICIALS TOSS THAT WORD AROUND FOR SPIN CONTROL, IT'S AN INSULT TO VICTIMS OF THE NAZIS, TO NATIVE AMERICANS, TO THE TUTSIS...

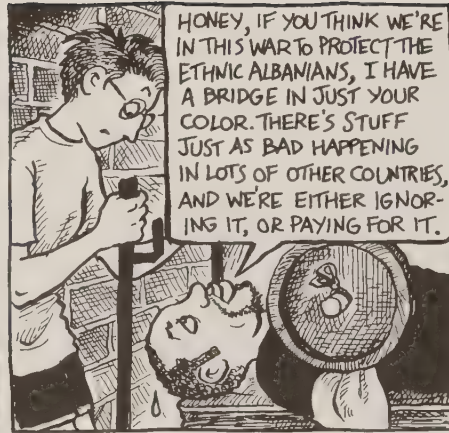


I THINK IT'S AN INSULT **NOT** TO CALL THIS GENOCIDE. AS A KID I ASKED MY GRANDPARENTS WHY THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AFTER THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST. I'D BE A HYPOCRITE NOT TO SUPPORT GROUND TROOPS NOW!

©AT THE Y...



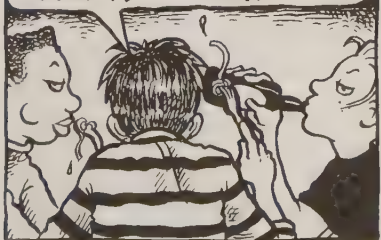
AREN'T WE MORALLY OBLIGATED TO INTERVENE?



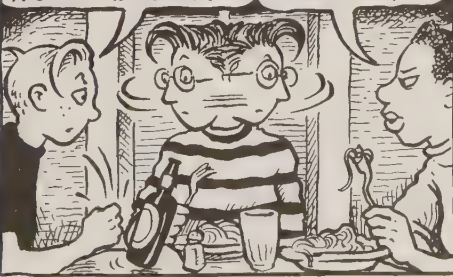
HONEY, IF YOU THINK WE'RE IN THIS WAR TO PROTECT THE ETHNIC ALBANIANS, I HAVE A BRIDGE IN JUST YOUR COLOR. THERE'S STUFF JUST AS BAD HAPPENING IN LOTS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, AND WE'RE EITHER IGNORING IT, OR PAYING FOR IT.

©OVER DINNER WITH LOIS & GINGER...

BOMBING YUGOSLAVIA IS IMMORAL! NATO DOESN'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT THE ETHNIC ALBANIANS OR HUMAN RIGHTS. IT'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT "GEOPOLITICAL STABILITY," WHICH IS NEWSPEAK FOR "WAL \*MART."



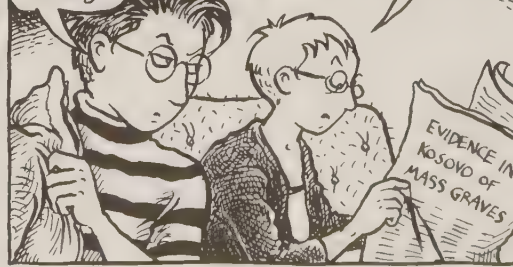
BUT WHO CARES WHAT NATO'S MOTIVATION IS IF IT STOPS MILOSEVIC? WE'RE ON THE VICTIM'S SIDE FOR ONCE. LET'S KICK FASCIST BUTT!



GOOD IDEA, LOIS. DECIMATING THE COUNTRY SHOULD BE A BIG BOOST TO THE MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.

©AND BACK AT HOME...

Y'KNOW, YOU WERE TOTALLY RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING, BUT I'VE COME BACK TO MY PACIFIST SENSES.



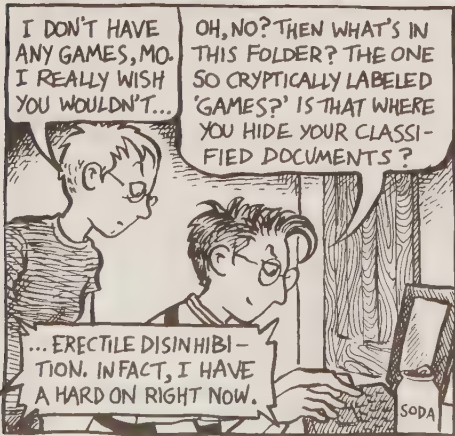
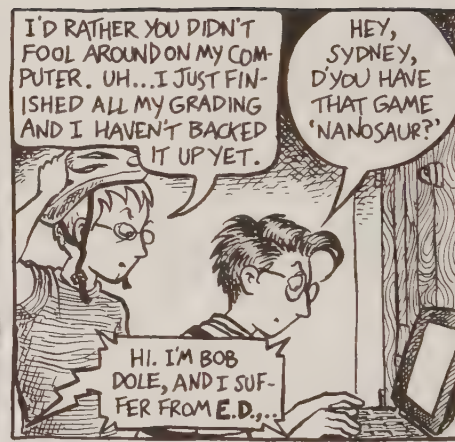
GOD! SOMEONE'S GOTTA TAKE THIS GUY OUT!



# dustup

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MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER TAX BRACKET...

YEAH, ANN WAS OVERREACTING ABOUT THE CIRCUMCISION DISCUSSION. IT'S NOT RIGHT TO KEEP THE BOYS APART JUST BECAUSE THE GROWN-UPS HAVE A DISAGREEMENT.

WELL, I THINK TONI FLEW OFF THE HANDLE A BIT HERSELF. SO RAFFI CAN STILL GO TO THE **STAR WARS** MOVIE WITH YOU SATURDAY?



OF COURSE! SO HOW'S THE "ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE" RACKET?

PRETTY GOOD. WE JUST TOOK ON A SUIT AGAINST A REAL DIRT-BAG DEVELOPER. THIS GUY SOLD LAND TO THE CITY FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING THIRTY YEARS AGO, AND DIDN'T MENTION IT USED TO BE A PETROCHEMICAL DUMP.



NO KIDDING.

YEAH. AND NOT ONLY THAT, HIS LAWYERS CLAIM THE REASON THERE'S SO MUCH CANCER AMONG THE RESIDENTS IS BECAUSE THEY **SMOKE** MORE THAN AVERAGE! CAN YOU BELIEVE THOSE **MORAL IMBECILES**?



SOUNDS LIKE A PERFECTLY REASONABLE DEFENSE TO ME. THESE CANCER CLUSTERS ARE NOTORIOUSLY DIFFICULT TO TRACE TO AN UNDERLYING ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSE.

THANKS FOR THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. BILL, YOU SHOULD REPRESENT THIS GUY.



I ALREADY DO. AND ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'D RATHER GO ALONE WITH BILLY TO "EPISODE ONE." YOU KNOW. DO SOME FATHER-SON BONDING.



**PERFECT!** MAYBE YOU CAN LURE HIM OVER TO THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE WITH YOU!





# boy trouble

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MEEMA,  
LOOK!

OH MY GOD! CALL THE AMBULANCE!  
THAT'S THE WORST CASE OF FINGER-  
NAIL FUNGUS I'VE EVER SEEN!

IT'S NOT  
FUNGUS! IT'S POLISH,  
SEE? IT'S ALL  
SPARKLY!

OH, PHEW! WE  
WON'T HAVE TO AMPU-  
TATE! THAT'S REALLY  
COOL, RAFF.

EMILY BROUGHT  
IT TO SCHOOL.  
I HAVE IT ON  
MY TOES TOO.

HI, BABE. DID  
YOU SEE OUR  
LITTLE FASHION  
PLATE?

YES, I DID. RAFFI,  
DID YOU TELL  
MEEMA WHAT  
HAPPENED?

No.

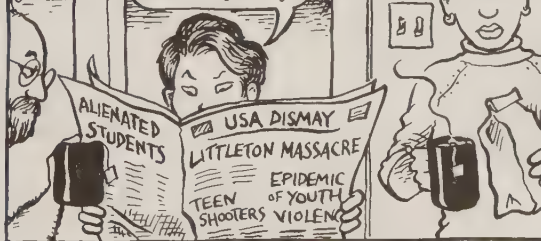
OH.  
JOY.

WELL, UM, TAYLOR SAID ONLY  
GIRLS WEAR NAIL POLISH AND  
SO I, SO I SAID BUT I'M A BOY  
AND **I'M** WEARING NAIL POLISH,  
AND SO YOU'RE **WRONG!**

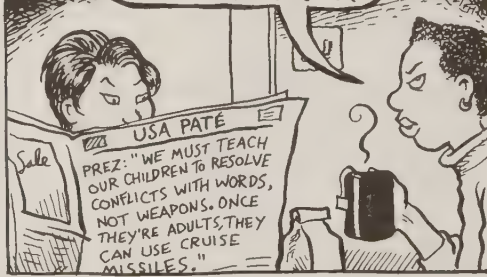
RAFFI, I'M PROUD  
OF YOU! THAT  
WAS A VERY  
SMART THING  
TO SAY!



MEANWHILE... AMAZING. YOU'D THINK THAT IN THE STAGGERING AMOUNT OF NEWS ANALYSIS THIS ISSUE HAS GENERATED, SOMEONE WOULD HAVE AT LEAST **MENTIONED** THE INTERESTING LITTLE COINCIDENCE THAT ALL THESE PISTOL-PACKIN' PUBESENTS ARE **MALE**?

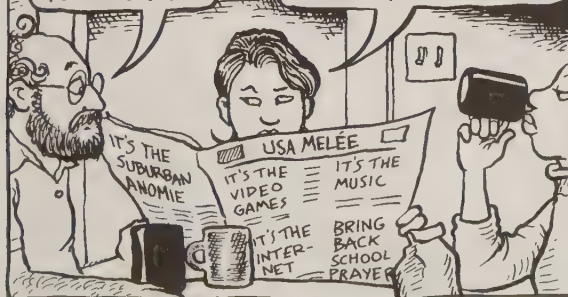


**WHITE BOYS.** CAN YOU IMAGINE IF IT WAS GIRLS, OR AFRICAN-AMERICAN KIDS WIPING OUT THEIR HOMEROOMS WITH TEC-9s? ALL THESE LAMENTS ABOUT OUR GENERIC "CHILDREN" WOULD GET AWFUL SPECIFIC AWFUL QUICK.

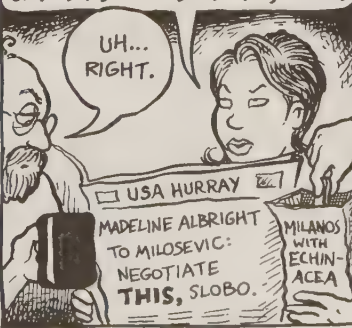


WELL, MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT EVERYONE TAKES FOR GRANTED THAT BOYS ARE MORE PRONE TO VIOLENCE.

DUH! MALE VIOLENCE IS INVISIBLE. NO ONE WANTS TO LOOK AT IT AS A PROBLEM. THEY'D RATHER BLAME ANYTHING ELSE.



I MEAN, I'M SURE ALL THAT AGGRESSION CAME IN HANDY BACK IN THE PLEISTOCENE, BUT COME ON! LET'S EVOLVE A LITTLE, BOYS!



MS. KISSLER THINKS PERHAPS HE'S NOT GETTING ENOUGH ROUGH-HOUSING AT HOME. YOU KNOW, WHAT WITH HAVING TWO MOTHERS AND ALL.





# Task- mistress

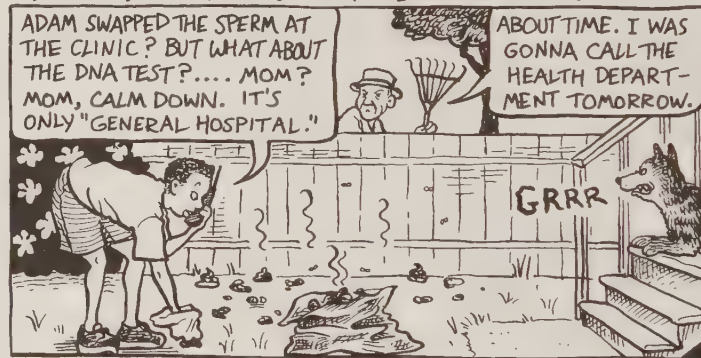
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HAVING TROUBLE FINDING ROOM IN YOUR INSANE SCHEDULE FOR ALL THE ELEMENTS OF A FULL, BALANCED LIFE?

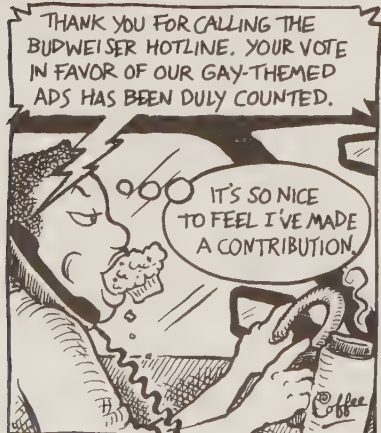
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MULTITASK ALONG WITH GINGER!

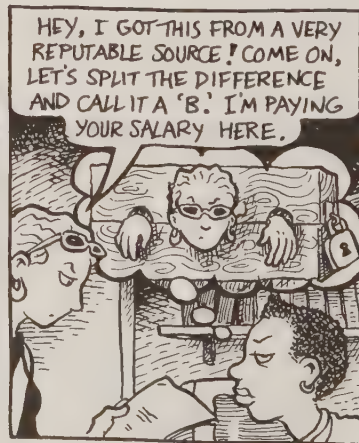
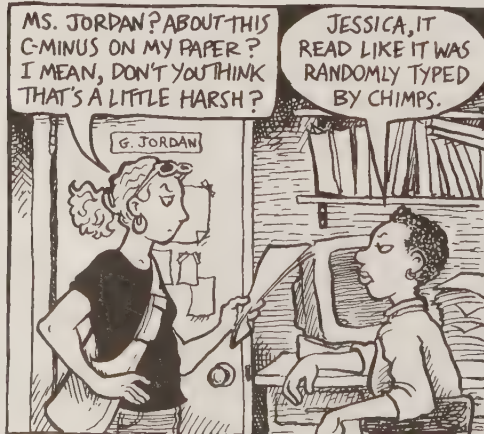
WHILE KNOCKING OFF HER RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER, A CARING PET OWNER, AND A CONSCIENTIOUS NEIGHBOR, SHE KEEPS UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS!



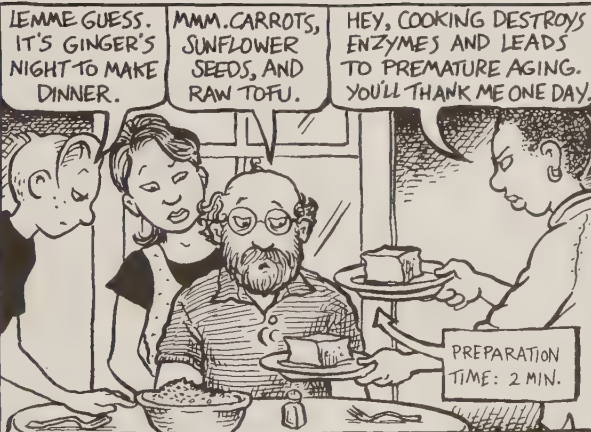
AND WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY BREAKFASTING AND COMMUTING TO WORK, SHE DOES HER POLITICAL ACTIVISM!



TEACHING COLLEGE ENGLISH IS ALL-CONSUMING, BUT GINGER RENEWS HERSELF ON THE JOB WITH SPIRITUALLY CENTERING VISUALIZATION EXERCISES!



AT HOME, SHE SUCCESSFULLY JUGGLS HER OBLIGATIONS AS A COLLECTIVE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND HER COMMITMENT TO A NURTURING DIET OF WHOLE, UNPROCESSED FOODS.



MANY OF US END UP PUTTING EXERCISE AND INTIMATE TIME WITH FRIENDS ON THE BACK BURNER, BUT NOT GINGER!



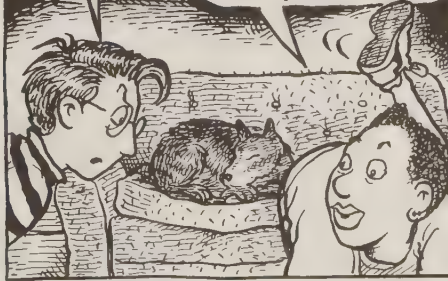
NOT THE POINT, GINGER. WILL YOU PAY ATTENTION? I THINK SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME!

COULD YOU MOVE YOUR HEAD? LOOK - OOF! - JUST BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T WANT YOU PANT POKING AROUND IN HER FILES DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S HAVING A HUFF: TERRID ONLINE AFFAIR!



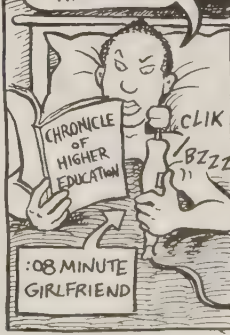
WHAT? WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT AN **ONLINE AFFAIR**? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

UH... NOTHING! I SWEAR! I GUESS I JUST, UH... GOT YOU CONFUSED FOR A SECOND WITH ONE OF MY MOM'S SOAP OPERAS. YEAH, THAT'S IT.



WHILE STAYING CURRENT IN HER FIELD, OUR WELL-ROUNDED GAL CHECKS ONE LAST TASK OFF THE LIST!

GOOD THING I'M NOT IN A RELATIONSHIP! I'D NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE.





# idle hands

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AH, SUMMER VACATION! HAGGARD AND SPENT FROM THEIR STRESSFUL JOBS, SPARROW AND GINGER FINALLY GET SOME TIME OFF TO RE-CUPERATE.

THEIR HOUSE, THAT IS.

GOD, I HOPE THIS ISN'T LEAD PAINT. I DON'T HAVE ANY BRAIN CELLS TO SPARE.

SPEAKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS...

WAL-MART, AFTER BECOMING THE NATION'S SECOND LARGEST DRUG RETAILER...

HOW'S OUR FRIEND SYDNEY? HAS SHE DUMPED MO FOR THE CYBERSLUT YET?

OH, COME ON! YOU STILL THINK SYDNEY'S HAVING AN AFFAIR JUST BECAUSE...

...BY PUTTING SCORES OF SMALLER STORES OUT OF BUSINESS...

JUST BECAUSE OF THOSE ONLINE CAPERS WITH LITTLE MISS "GOOD-THING" I FOUND ON HER COMPUTER? WAKE UP, GINGER!

YEAH, WELL, YOU MAY BE RIGHT AFTER ALL. MO SAYS SYDNEY'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD LATELY, SECRETIVE.

...HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL NOT BE CARRYING THE 'MORNING AFTER' EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION PILL.

NOW DO YOU AGREE WE SHOULD WARN HER?

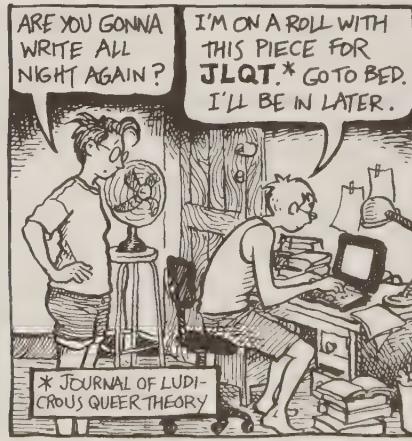
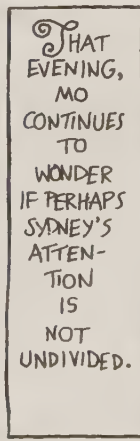
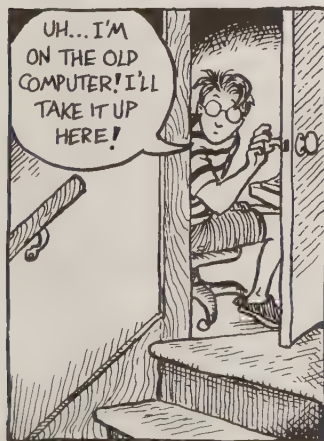
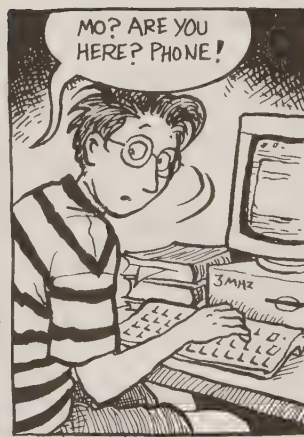
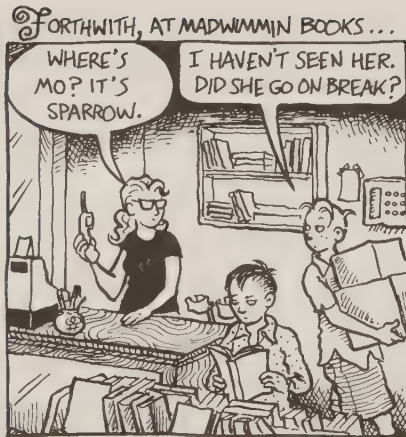
OH, SPARROW! WHAT WOULD WE SAY? "WE THINK YOUR GIRL-FRIEND'S SCREWING AROUND ON YOU, BUT WE'RE NOT SURE, AND ANYWAY IT MIGHT ONLY BE VIRTUAL?"

WHEN ASKED IF THEY HAD ANY CONCERN ABOUT USING SHEER CORPORATE FORCE TO IMPOSE THEIR MORALITY ON WOMEN...

VIRTUAL SCHMIRTUAL. HOW LONG WILL THAT LAST? YOU KNOW WHAT LESBIANS ARE LIKE. THEY'LL CHAT ONLINE, THEY'LL PHONE, THEY'LL MEET, THEN SYDNEY'S OUTTA HERE.

WELL, MAYBE.

...BY LIMITING AVAILABLE HEALTH CARE OPTIONS, A WALMART SPOKESMAN HAD THIS TO SAY:





bewitched,  
bothered,  
&  
betrayed

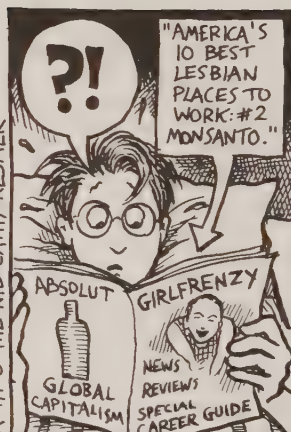
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317

Mo's  
HAVING  
TROUBLE  
FALLING  
ASLEEP  
WHILE  
SYDNEY'S  
STILL UP  
DOING  
GOD KNOWS  
WHAT ON  
HER  
COMPUTER.



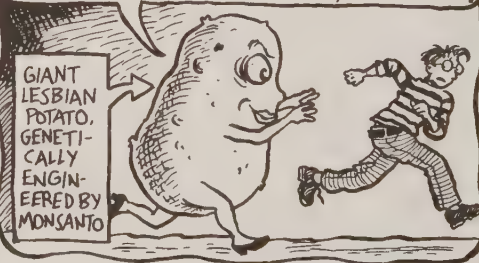
A TIP O' THE NIB CATHY RESMER

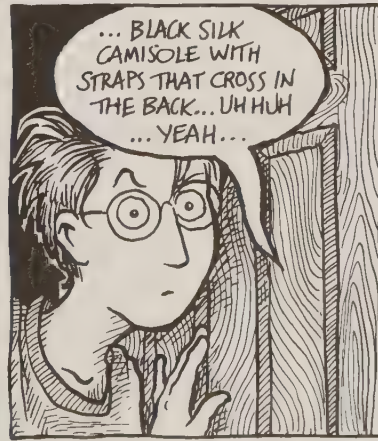
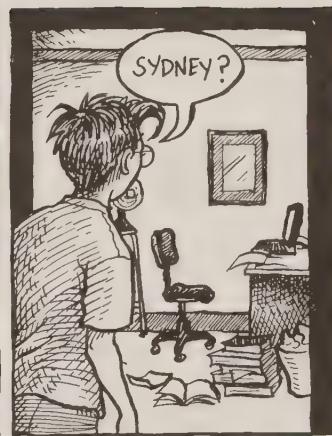
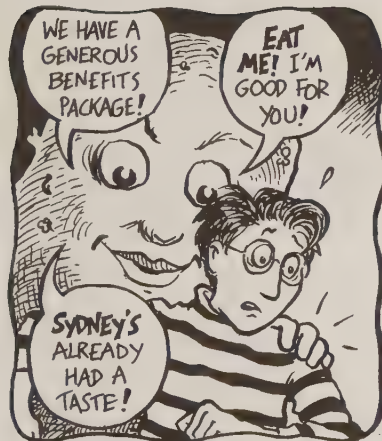


GREAT. WORKING FOR A MULTI-  
NATIONAL BIOCHEMICAL  
CORPORATION THAT'S FORCING  
THE WORLD TO SWALLOW ITS  
**TRANSGENIC CROPS** IS A  
VALID CAREER OPTION AS LONG  
AS YOU'RE **OUT 'N PROUD!**



COME HERE, MY LITTLE FRENCH FRY! LEAVE THAT LOW-RENT JOB AND JOIN THE **BIO-FOOD** INDUSTRY! WE'LL MAKE BILLIONS ON OUR **MUTANT VEGETABLES** BEFORE THE UNKNOWN HEALTH EFFECTS AND RESISTANT **SUPERBUGS** WREAK PLANETARY DEVASTATION!





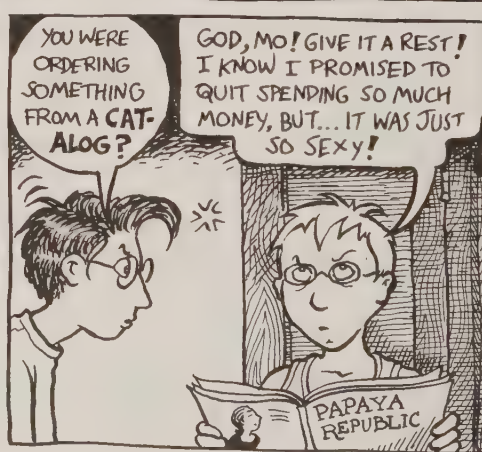
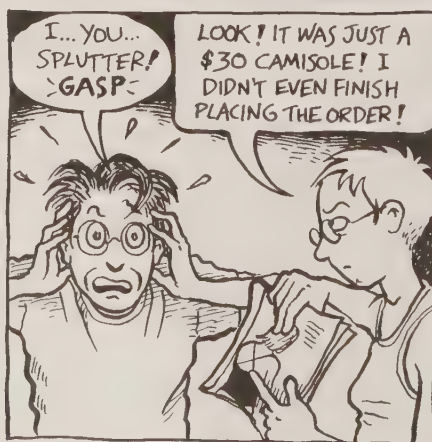


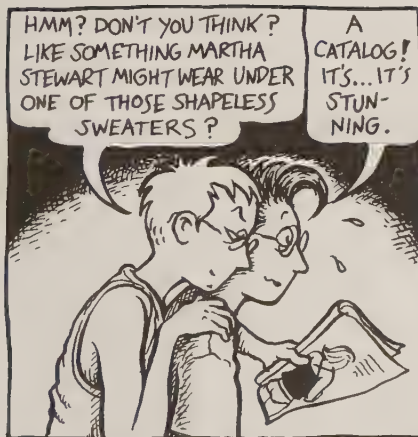
# busted

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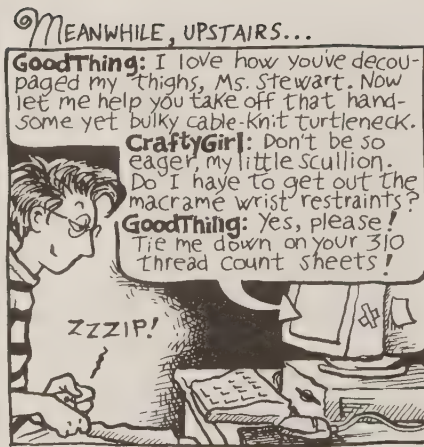
318

MO HAS JUST DISCOVERED SYDNEY ENGAGED IN A DISCUSSION OF INTIMATE UNDERGARMENTS WITH AN AS-YET-UNIDENTIFIED THIRD PARTY IN THE HALL CLOSET AT 3 AM.





NEXT  
DAY AT  
MADWIMMIN  
BOOKS,  
GINGER &  
SPARROW  
ARRIVE A  
BIT EARLY  
FOR THEIR  
LUNCHEON  
ENGAGE-  
MENT WITH  
MO.



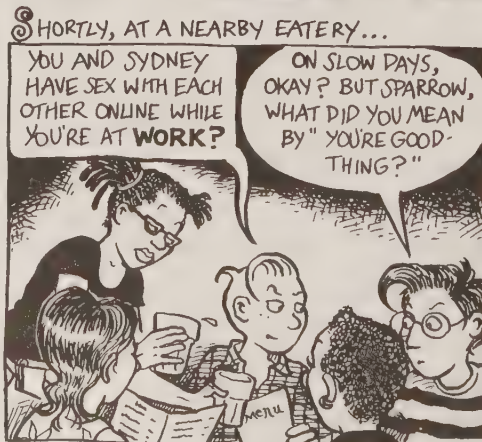
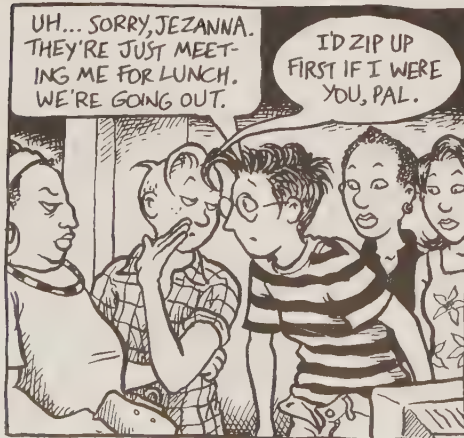
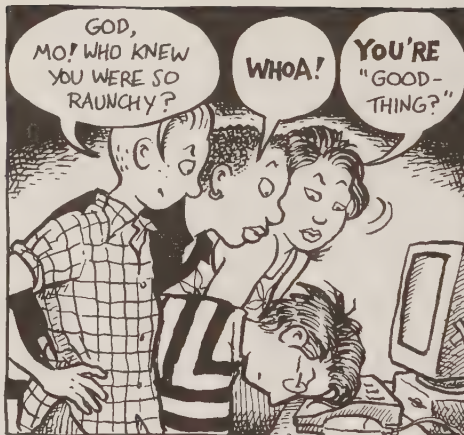


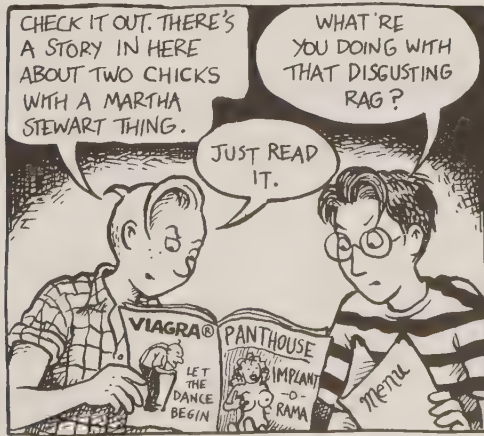
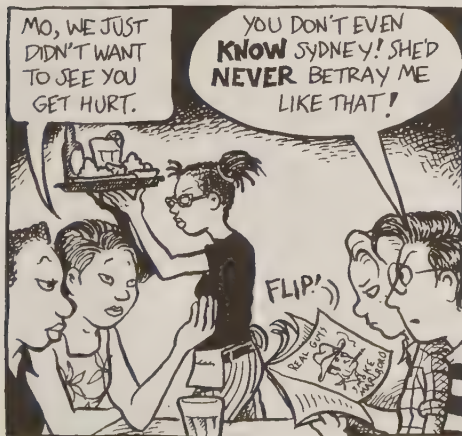
# FRIENDS LIKE THESE

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319

Mo  
HAS  
BEEN  
CAUGHT  
IN A  
RATHER  
COMPRO-  
MISING  
POSITION  
WITH  
THE OLD  
COMPUTER.





A TIP-TO THE NIB TO SEÑOR LORENZO SCHIMMEL!

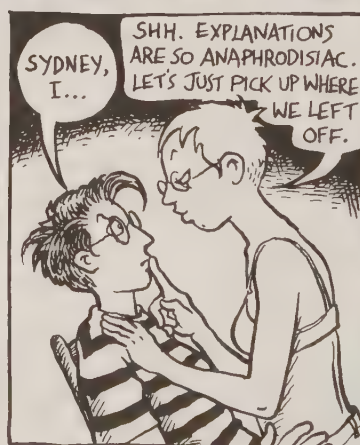


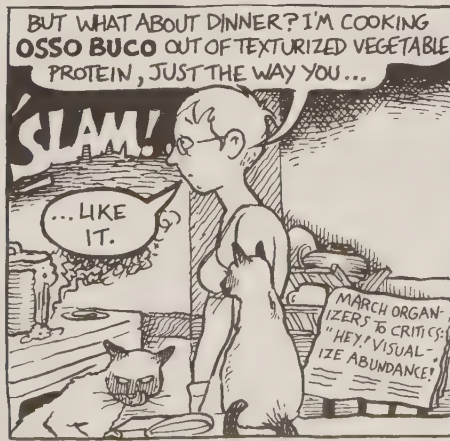
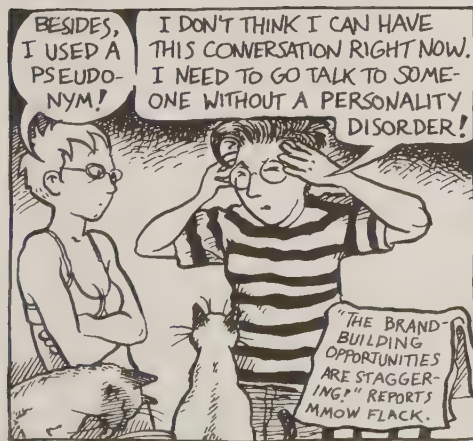
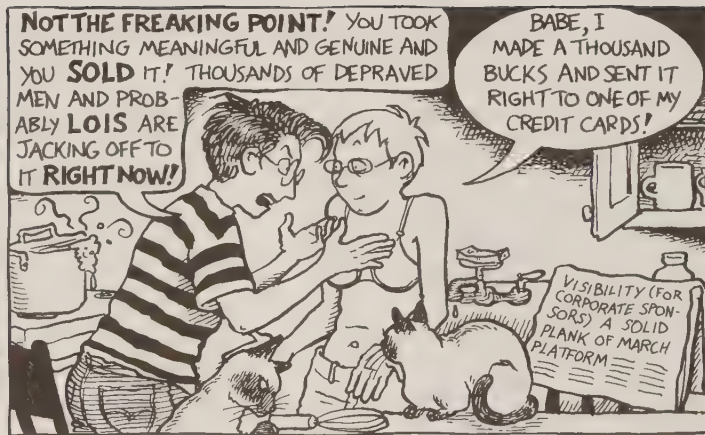
# LATEST EXPLOITS

©1999 BY ALISON BECHDEL

Mo  
HAS JUST  
LEARNED  
THAT SYDNEY  
PUBLISHED A  
PARTICULARLY  
PRURIENT  
PORTION OF  
THEIR  
ONLINE  
INTERCOURSE  
IN  
"PANTHOUSE"  
MAGAZINE.

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# MOTHER WIT

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4  
VISIT TO  
THE  
LOCAL  
ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL  
STIRS UP  
FOND  
MEMORIES  
FOR  
CLARICE.

321

GOD, THAT SMELL!  
TEMPERA PAINT!  
GERMICIDE! FEAR!

GET USED TO IT. I  
SIGNED US UP TO BE CLASS-  
ROOM VOLUNTEERS.



AFTER ALL THE TROUBLE WE WENT  
THROUGH TO CHECK OUT SCHOOLS  
AND MOVE TO THIS NEIGHBORHOOD,  
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE HAVE TO START  
FROM SCRATCH WITH A NEW  
TEACHER.



LOOK, SO THAT NICE MS. McKECHNIE  
TOOK EARLY RETIREMENT. STUFF  
HAPPENS, CLARICE. DON'T TURN THIS  
INTO ANOTHER ARGUMENT FOR WHY  
WE SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN THE CITY.



MS. PETERSON?  
HI, I'M TONI ORTIZ,  
AND THIS IS MY  
PARTNER, CLARICE  
CLIFFORD.

WE'RE RAFAEL CLIFFORD-  
ORTIZ'S PARENTS. HE'LL BE  
ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS  
THIS YEAR.

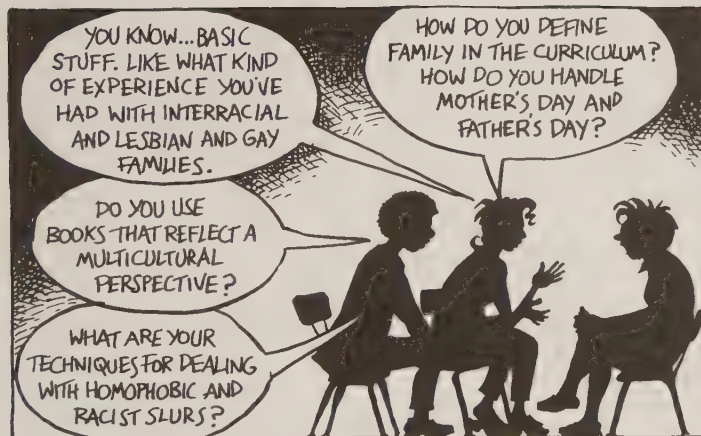


UH... WELL, HOW  
NICE TO MEET  
YOU!

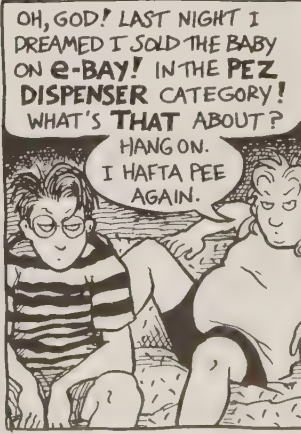
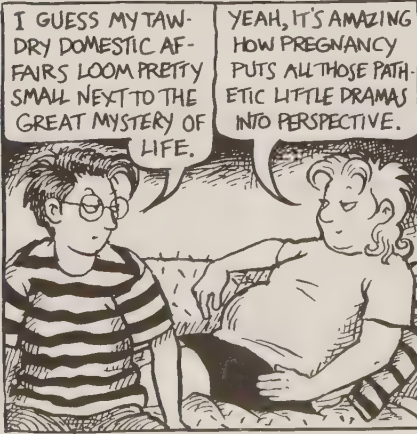
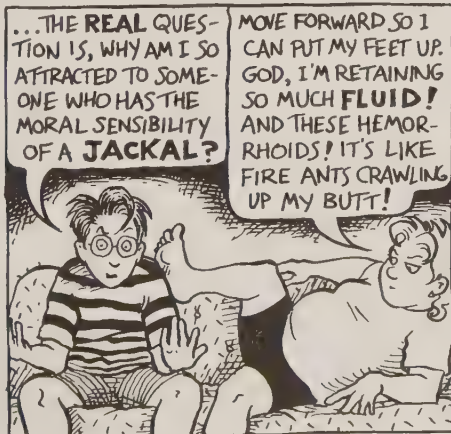
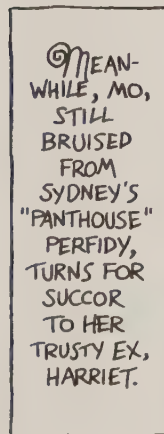
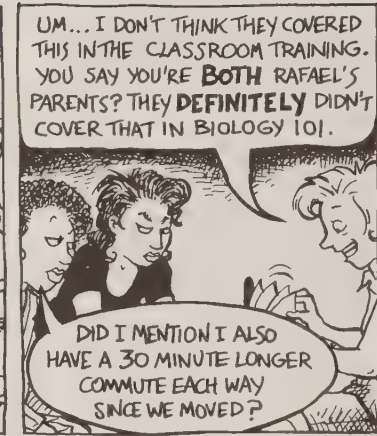
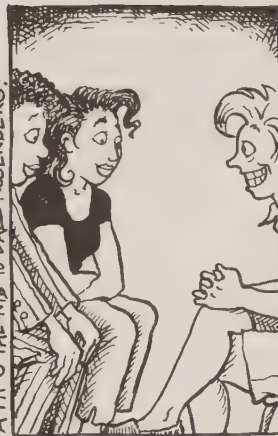
WE JUST THOUGHT WE'D  
DROP IN AND GET TO KNOW  
YOU A LITTLE BEFORE SCHOOL  
STARTS, ASK YOU A FEW  
QUESTIONS.



QUESTIONS?



A TIP O' THE NIB TO DALE ROSENBERG!





# CHEMISTRY

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THE  
SITUATION  
IN  
SUBURBIA  
IS  
ESCA-  
LATING.

322

LOOK AT THAT! THEY'RE  
HAVING THEIR LAWN TREAT-  
ED WITHOUT EVEN WARNING  
US! I'M GOING OVER THERE!

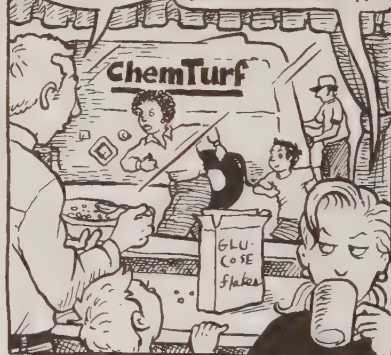
LET IT GO, CLARICE.  
RAFFI! PLEASE SIT  
DOWN AND EAT YOUR  
GRANOLA!

LIVIN'  
LA VIDA  
LOCA!



HERE SHE  
COMES.

BILL, JUST GIVE  
HER THE BROCHURE.  
DON'T GET INTO IT.



IF YOU'RE HERE  
ABOUT THE LAWN,  
CLARICE, I THINK  
THIS'LL SET YOUR  
MIND AT EASE.

"CHEMTURF AND YOUR HEALTH."  
WHY THANKS, BILL! I'M SURE ANY-  
THING CHEMTURF HAS TO SAY  
ABOUT HERBICIDE DRIFT, URBAN RUN-  
OFF, AND **MALIGNANT LYMPHOMA**  
CAN BE TRUSTED **IMPLICITLY!**

BILLY!  
WATCH!

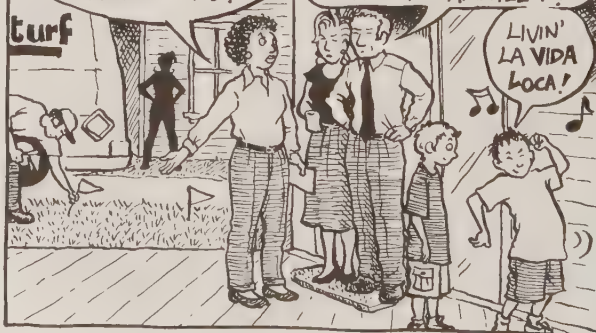
HEY!



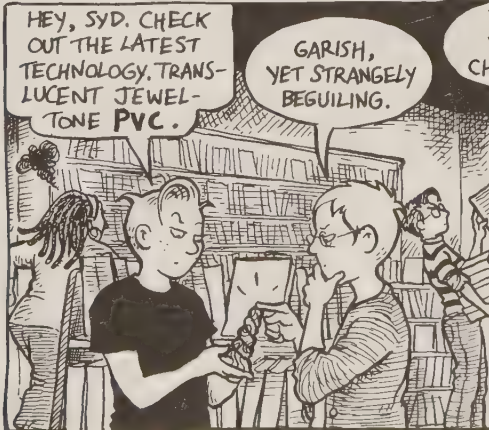
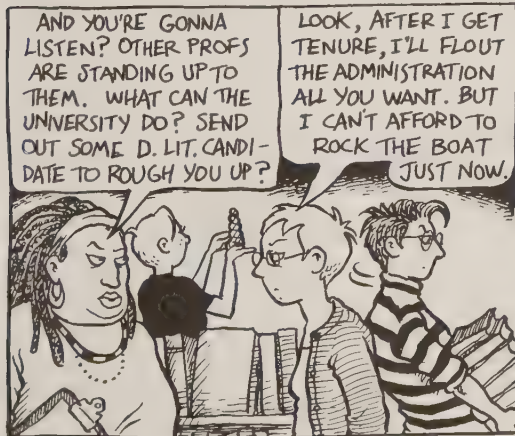
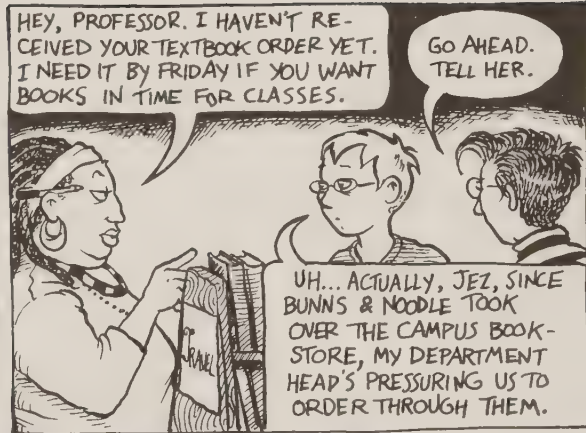
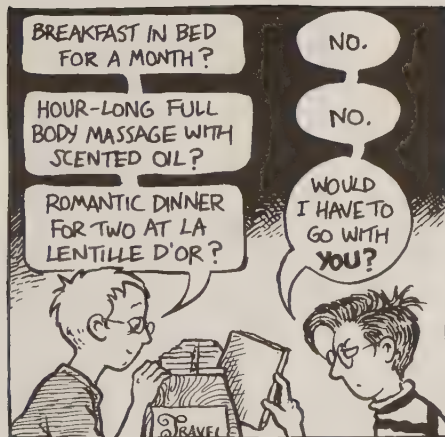
YOU'RE SMART  
PEOPLE! IF THAT STUFF IS  
HARMLESS, WHY PUT UP  
WARNING FLAGS?

THEY'RE NOT WARNING  
FLAGS. THEY'RE "COUR-  
TESY MARKERS!" JUST  
READ THE PAMPHLET!

LIVIN'  
LA VIDA  
LOCA!



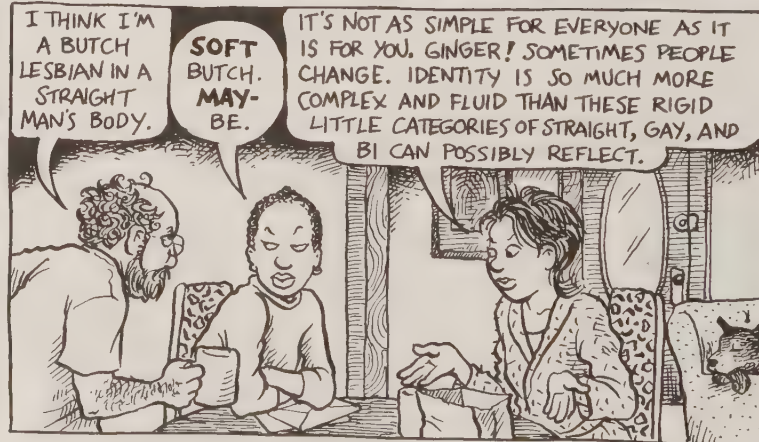
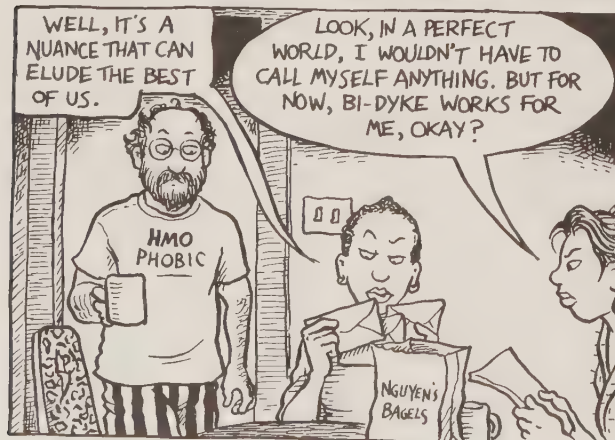
AND  
IN THE WAKE  
OF THE MOST  
RECENT  
ASSAULT,  
RAPPROCHE-  
MENT  
BETWEEN  
MO AND  
SYDNEY  
APPEARS  
INCREASINGLY  
REMOTE.

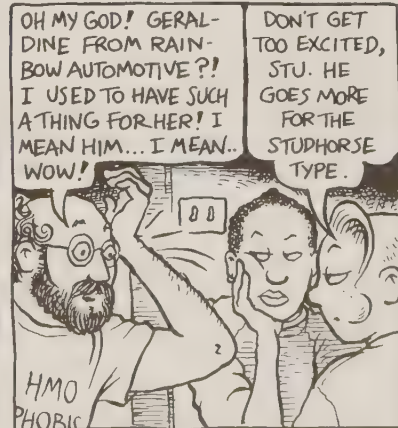
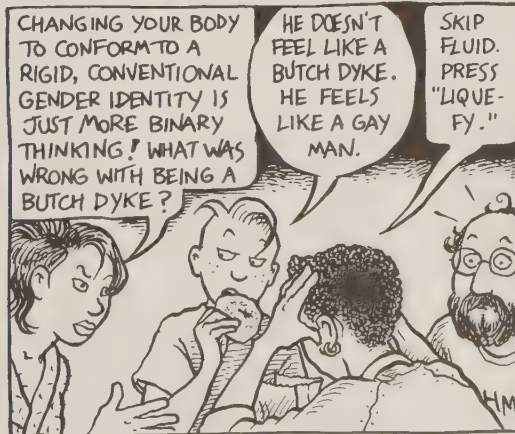
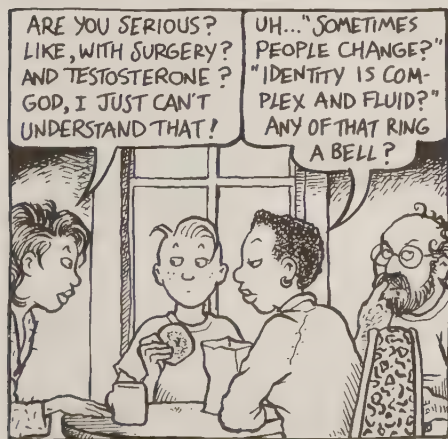
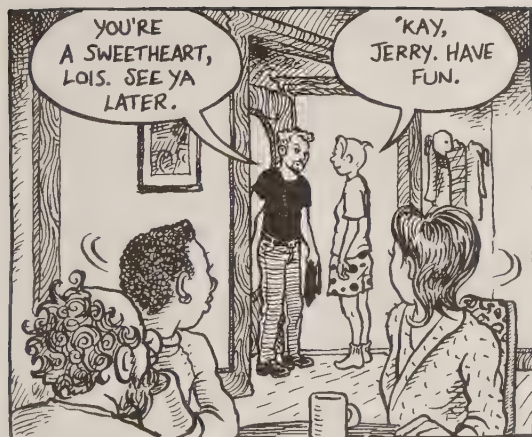




# I.D. fixe?

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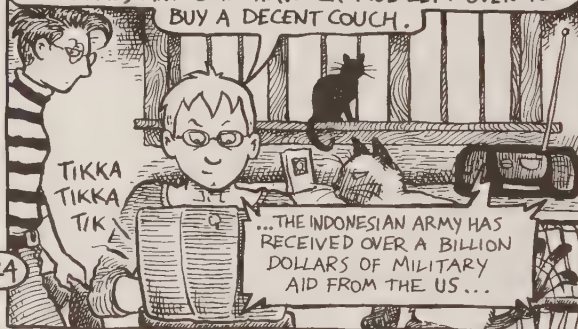






# trite and true

OKAY, I CAN GET OUT OF DEBT, SPEND A YEAR DOING RE-  
SEARCH, ANOTHER YEAR IN BARCELONA OR PARIS  
WRITING MY BOOK, THE YEAR AFTER THAT TREKKING  
IN NEPAL, AND STILL HAVE CHANGE LEFT OVER TO  
BUY A DECENT COUCH.

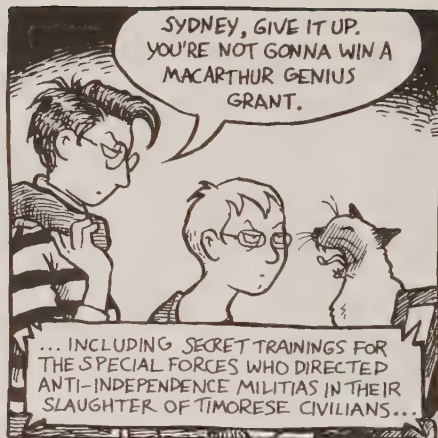


TIKKA  
TIKKA  
TIK

...THE INDONESIAN ARMY HAS  
RECEIVED OVER A BILLION  
DOLLARS OF MILITARY  
AID FROM THE U.S...

324

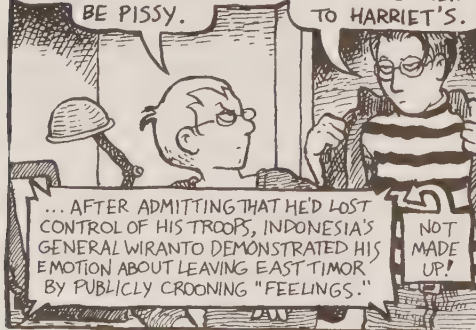
SYDNEY, GIVE IT UP.  
YOU'RE NOT GONNA WIN A  
MACARTHUR GENIUS  
GRANT.



... INCLUDING SECRET TRAININGS FOR  
THE SPECIAL FORCES WHO DIRECTED  
ANTI-INDEPENDENCE MILITIAS IN THEIR  
SLAUGHTER OF TIMORESE CIVILIANS...

I KNOW YOU'RE THREAT-  
ENED BY MY HIGH LEVEL  
OF ACHIEVEMENT, MO, BUT  
THAT'S NO REASON TO  
BE PISSY.

RIGHT. WELL,  
YOU SET THE  
WORLD ON FIRE.  
I'M GOING OVER  
TO HARRIET'S.



... AFTER ADMITTING THAT HE'D LOST  
CONTROL OF HIS TROOPS, INDONESIA'S  
GENERAL WIRANTO DEMONSTRATED HIS  
EMOTION ABOUT LEAVING EAST TIMOR  
BY PUBLICLY CROONING "FEELINGS."

NOT  
MADE  
UP!

FOR A SCINTILLATING DIS-  
CUSSION OF HER LATEST  
ULTRASOUND? I THOUGHT  
SHE WAS BORING YOU SILLY  
WITH ALL THAT BABY TALK.

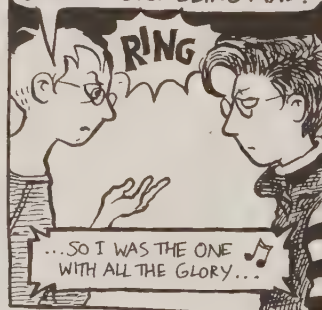
HEY, HARRIET'S TRITE  
OBSERVATIONS ABOUT  
THE MIRACLE OF A NEW  
LIFE BEAT LISTENING  
TO YOU ANY DAY OF  
THE WEEK.



...THE US COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE  
PACIFIC RESPONDED WITH A MOVING  
RENDITION OF "WIND BENEATH MY WINGS."

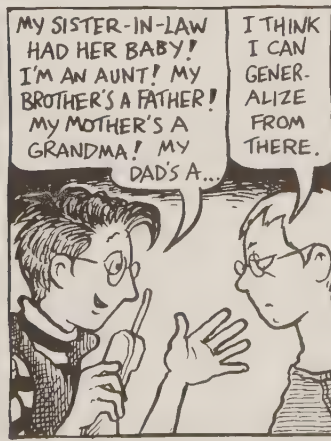
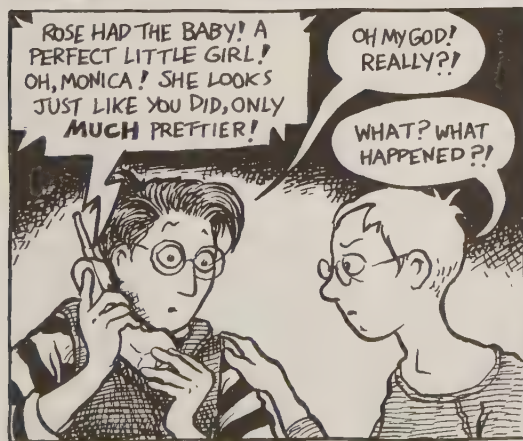
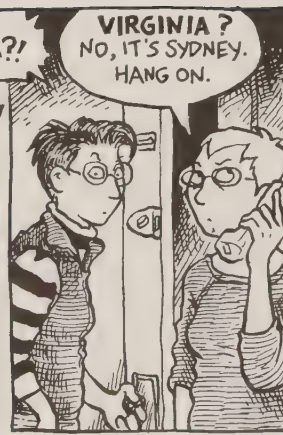
MADE  
UP.

OKAY! YOU'VE MILKED THIS  
SYDNEY-IN-THE-DOGHOUSE.  
THING JUST ABOUT LONG  
ENOUGH. WHEN ARE YOU  
GOING TO STOP BEING MAD?



RING

...SO I WAS THE ONE  
WITH ALL THE GLORY...

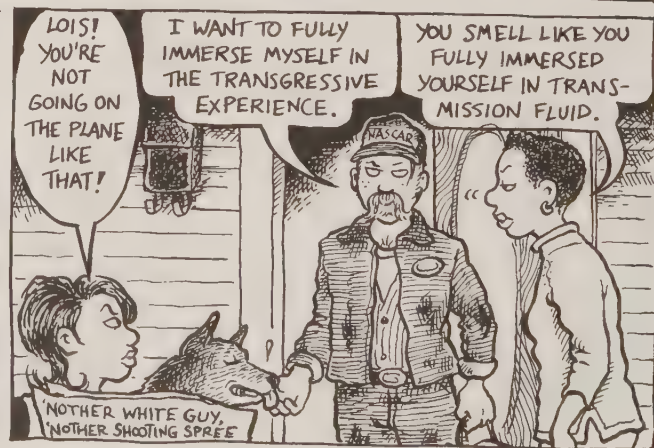
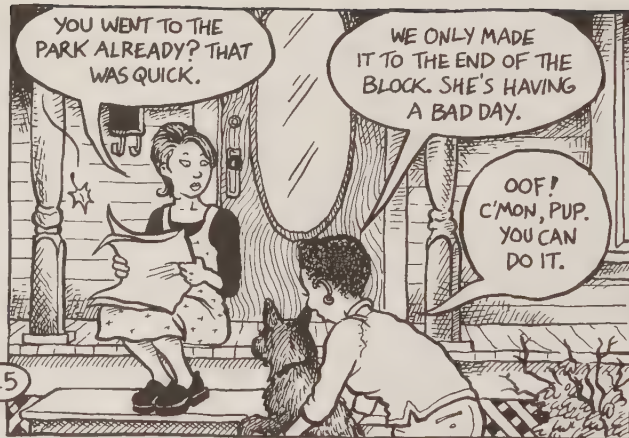


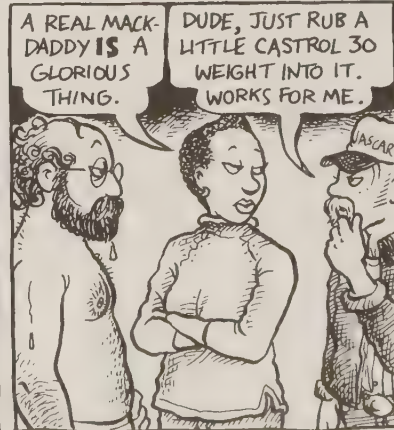
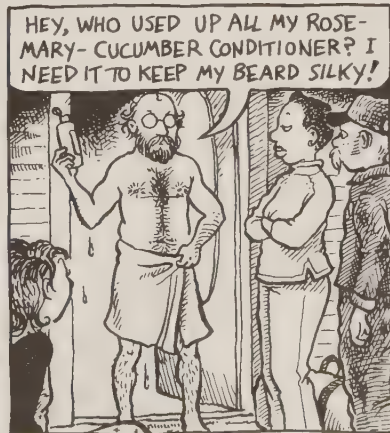
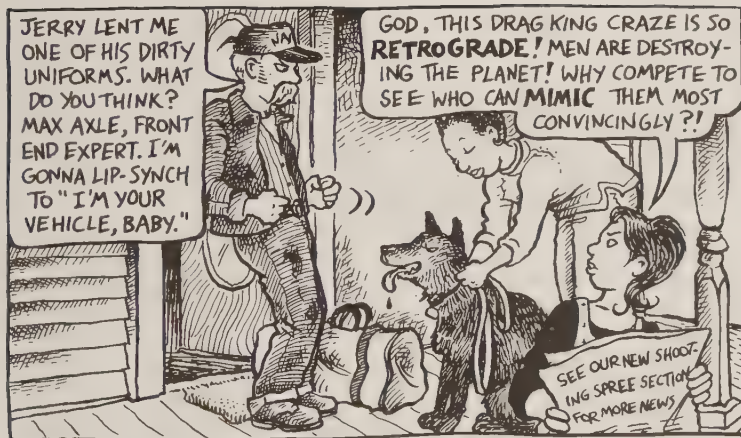


# sixty minute man

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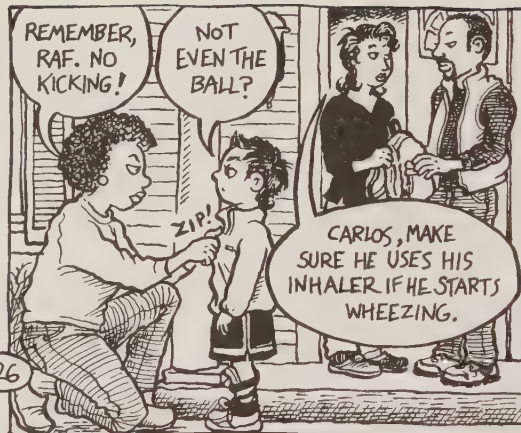


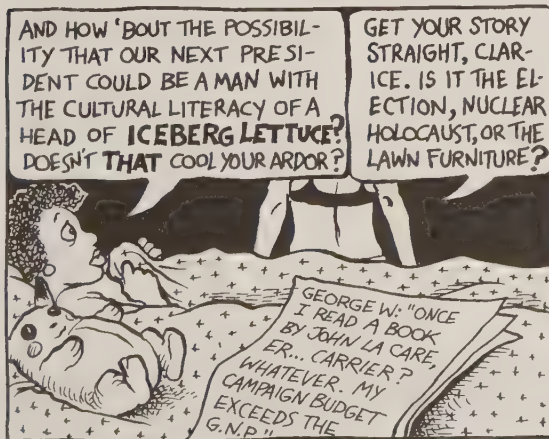
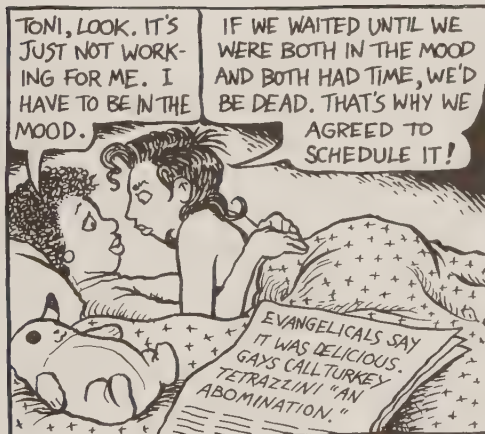


# LABOR of Love

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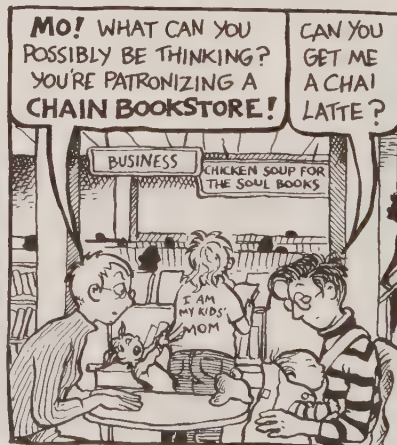
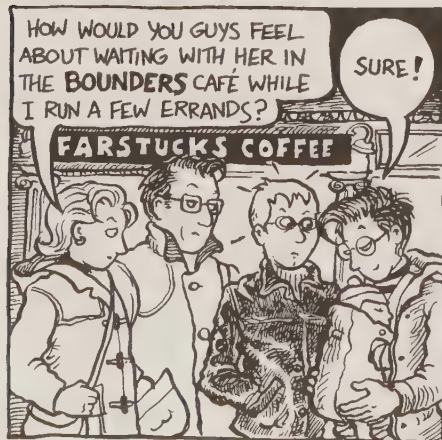


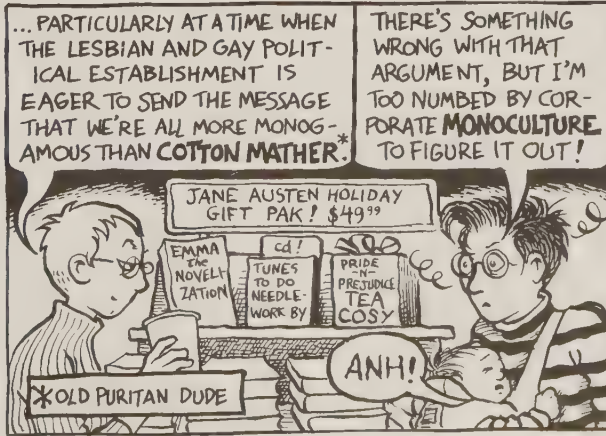
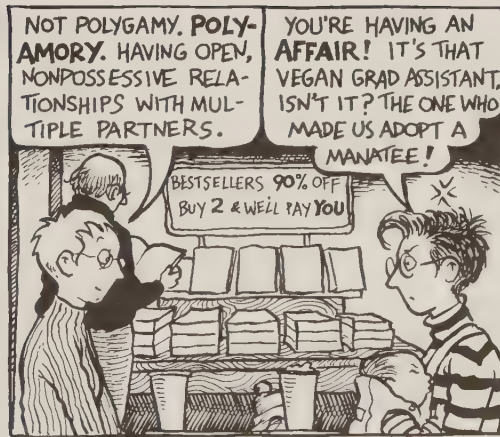


# ECONOMY OF SCALE

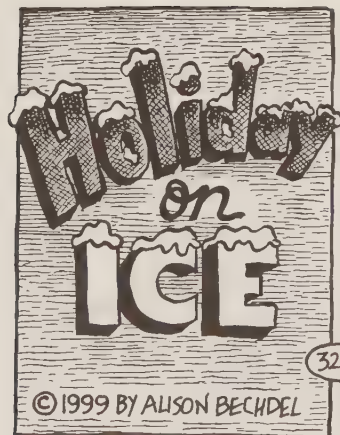
ON A VISIT TO HER BROTHER, SISTER-IN-LAW, AND NEW NIECE, MO APPEARS TO BE COMPLETELY BE-SOTTED.

327







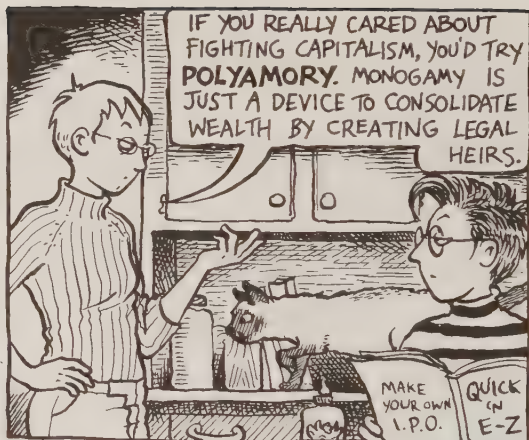
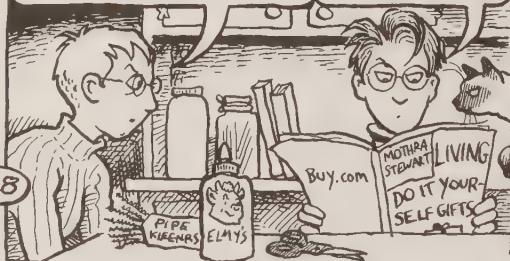


IS THE SEASON! AT MO & SYDNEY'S...

MO, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS. I HAVE A HUNDRED PAPERS TO GRADE. I'M JUST GONNA **BUY** PRESENTS LIKE A NORMAL PERSON.

FINE. FEED THE CONSUMER CAPITALIST MACHINE. ANNIHILATE YOURSELF WITH DEBT.

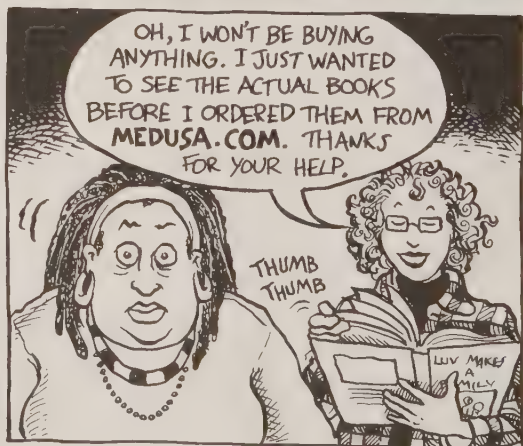
328



AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS...

AND THE LAST BOOK ON MY LIST IS "LOVE MAKES A FAMILY," IN HARDCOVER.

YEP, RIGHT HERE. LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'RE READY TO CHECK OUT, I'LL BE WORKING ON THE WINDOW DISPLAY.



BLACK COHOSH TINCTURE.

CAN- DLES.

FLAX OIL.

KAVA KAVA ROOT.

CHECK.

CHECK.

CHECK.

CHECK.

SUMMONING THE DARK LORD?

DIG

JUST MAKING SURE WE'VE GOT THE NECESSITIES ON HAND IN CASE OF A Y2K MELTDOWN.

OH, GINGER! DON'T FORGET TO STOCK UP ON DOG FOOD!

UM... RIGHT.

DOG FOOD

OH, JUST A SLIGHT SNOWBOARDING MIS-HAP. IT'S NOTHING. HOW ARE **YOU** FEELING?

NOT SO GREAT, ACTUALLY. I'VE HAD A SPLITTING HEAD-ACHE ALL DAY.

THE PREGNANT GUIDE TO ULTIMATE LESBIAN-ISM

A cartoon illustration of a doctor examining a pregnant woman. The doctor, an older man with glasses, says "HMM. REALLY." while feeling the woman's belly. The woman asks, "MIRIAM? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?"

HARRIET, YOUR BLOOD  
PRESSURE IS AWFULLY HIGH.  
TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE,  
I'M GOING TO SUGGEST THAT  
TONI TAKE YOU TO THE  
HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY.

THE HOSPITAL? BUT... BUT SHE'S NOT DUE FOR ANOTHER WEEK!

I CAN'T GO  
TO THE HOSPITAL!  
I HAVE MY LAMAZE  
CLASS TONIGHT!



□ Dykes

Address http://www

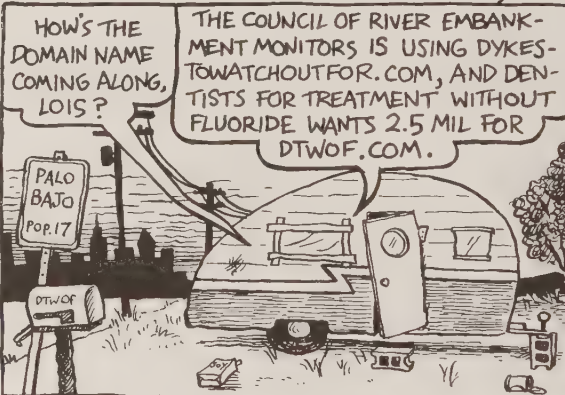
**click  
this**

©1999 by  
Alison Bechdel

SORRY,  
READERS.  
THIS WEEK'S  
EPISODE  
HAS BEEN  
CANCELLED  
WHILE OUR  
STAFF  
SCRAMBLES  
BELATEDLY  
FOR A  
CRUMB OF  
THE  
e-PIE.

329

ON THE CAMPUS OF DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR, INC.



BUY IT! WE'VE GOTTA  
BUILD BRAND! IF WE END  
UP AS A DOT.NET, YOU  
CAN KISS RETIRING ON  
YOUR STOCK OPTIONS  
SAYONARA!

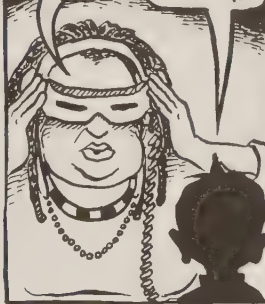


WHAT ABOUT THE VIRTUAL COMICS PROGRAM RAFFI'S BEEN WORKING ON, WHERE THE USER BECOMES A CARTOON CHARACTER AND ENTERS THE SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT OF THE STRIP AND **INTERACT** WITH US?



WE ALL LOOK LIKE POKÉMONS.

I'M WORKING ON IT. THIS IS JUST THE BETA.



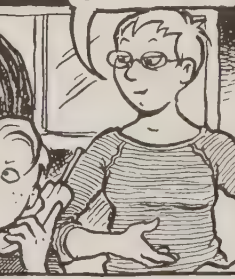
THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES! PEOPLE COULD MEET MO FOR BRUNCH! SPOT CARLOS ON THE BENCH PRESS! HAVE SEX WITH LOIS!



WHO TH'HELL WOULD PAY FOR THAT?



I'VE GOT A PLAN TO MONETIZE THE SITE, JEZ. SAY A READER LIKES THE SWEATER I'M WEARING. THEY CLICK ON IT...



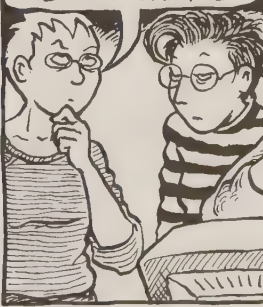
...AND **BINGO!** PAPAYAREPUBLIC.COM IS DOWNLOADING THEIR CREDIT CARD NUMBER!



SELLING PEOPLE MORE USELESS SHIT! I LIKE IT! BUT WE COULD SAVE OURSELVES A LOT OF TROUBLE BY GOING DIRECTLY TO **SATAN.COM** AND CASHING IN OUR SOULS!



HMM. INTERESTING, MO. THAT MIGHT BE A GOOD OPTION IF WE'RE UNABLE TO ATTRACT VENTURE CAPITAL.



WHAT HAPPENS IF I CLICK ON THE MO POKÉMON?



CLICK HER SHIRT AND YOU GO TO KMART.COM. CLICK HER HEAD AND SHE IMPLODES FROM THE TENSION BETWEEN HER CORE BELIEFS AND THE THINGS SHE HAS TO DO FOR THIS JOB.



COOL.



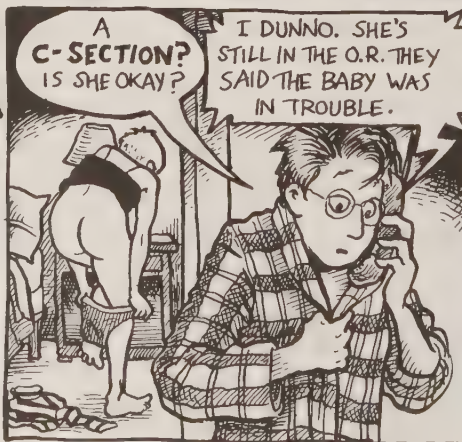
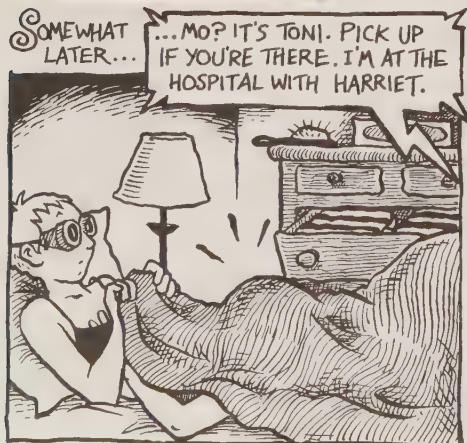
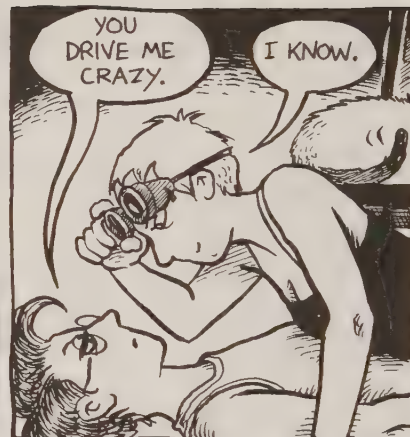
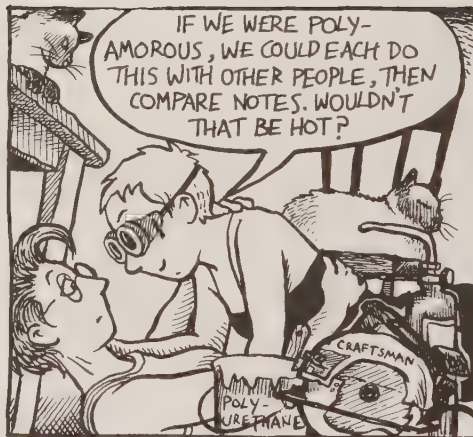


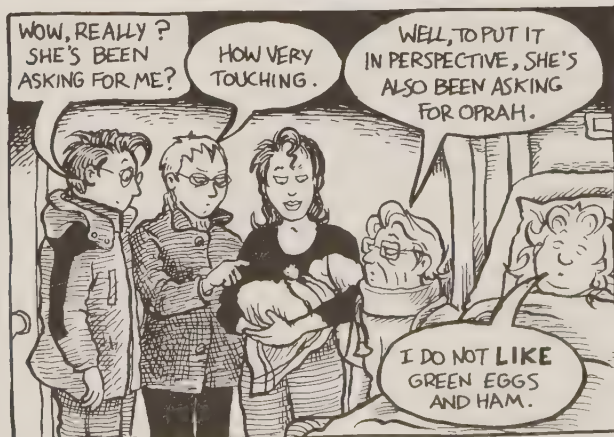
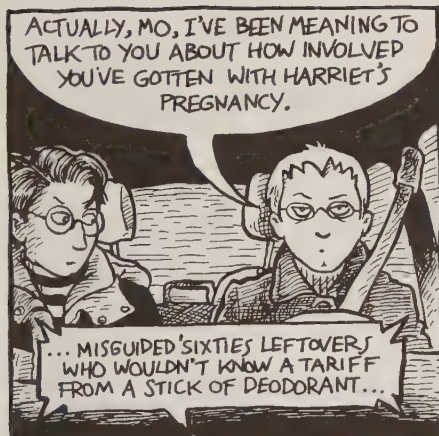
# polyamorous perVersity

©1999 BY ALISON BECHDEL

Mo's  
HOLIDAY  
CRAFTS  
PROJECT  
APPEARS  
TO  
HAVE  
BEEN  
DERAILED.

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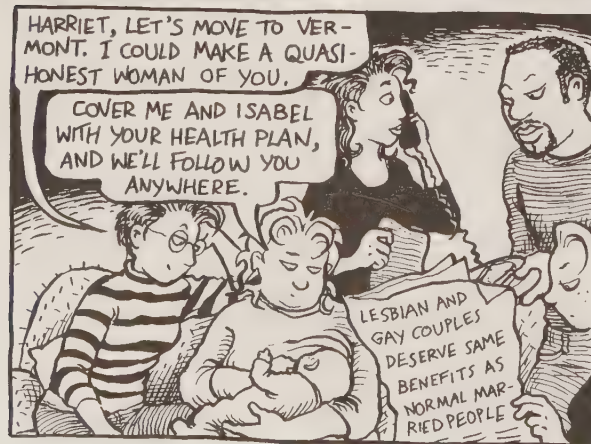
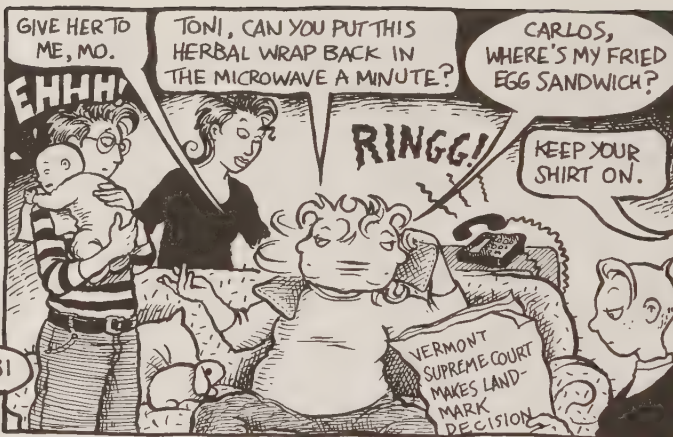




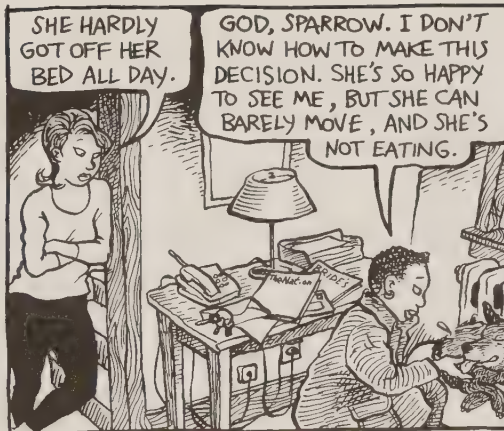
# LUNCH MAKES A FAMILY

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MEANWHILE...



YOU COOKED A STEAK? IS THIS THE SAME WOMAN WHO ONCE TRIED TO CONVINCE ME DOGS COULD LIVE ON RICE AND BREWER'S YEAST BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT MEAT IN THE HOUSE?





# TAG TEAM

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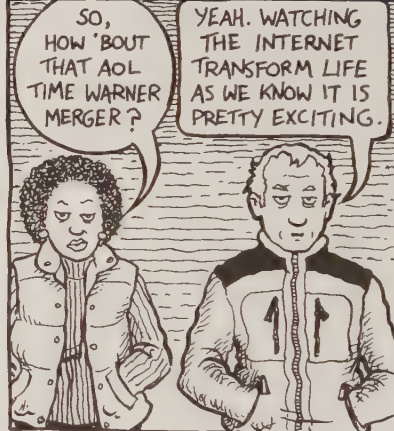
332

CLARICE HAS RUN INTO HER NEMESIS NEIGHBOR BILL AT THE LOCAL PARK WHERE THEIR RESPECTIVE CHILDREN ARE DISPORTING THEMSELVES.



WATCH, MEEMA!

READY, SET, GO!



SO, HOW 'BOUT THAT AOL TIME WARNER MERGER?

YEAH. WATCHING THE INTERNET TRANSFORM LIFE AS WE KNOW IT IS PRETTY EXCITING.

EXCITING LIKE THE MONGOL INVASION.

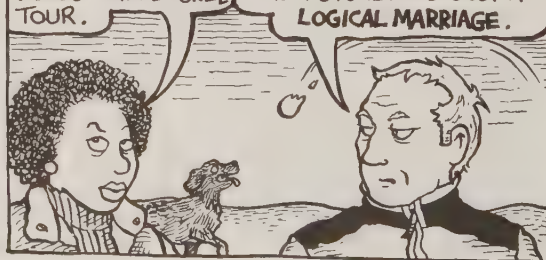
OH, COME ON. IT'S HISTORY UNFOLDING. YOU CAN WHINE AND DRAG YOUR FEET, BUT IT'S GONNA HAPPEN.



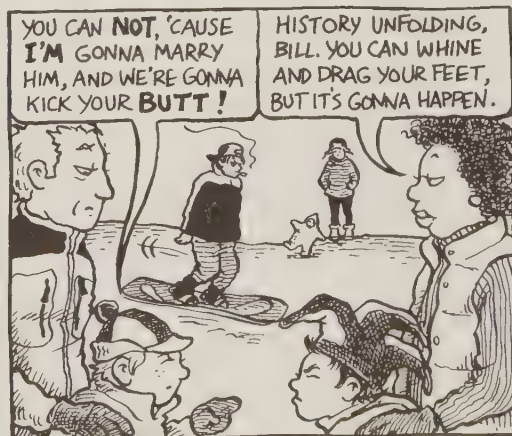
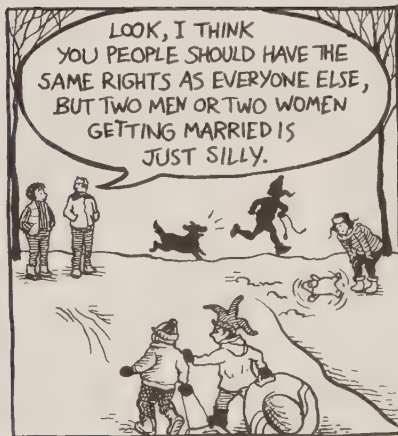
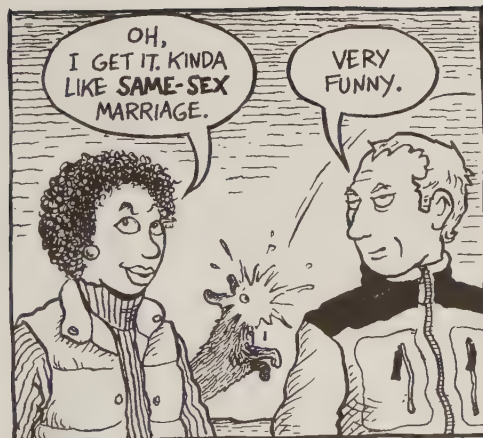
IT'S NOT TECHNOLOGY I HAVE A PROBLEM WITH. IT'S THESE METASIZING MEDIA MONSTERS. WITH FEWER, BIGGER CORPORATIONS PRODUCING AND DISTRIBUTING THE NEWS, THE MORE THE NEWS WILL BE JUST WHAT THEY WANT US TO HEAR.



IN-DEPTH REPORTS ABOUT THE WEB SITE FOR TEEN PEOPLE READERS' REACTIONS TO THE HBO SPECIAL ON LEANN RIMES' OKEFENOCHE TOUR.



SPARE ME THE PROGRESSIVE PARANOIA. A MERGER BETWEEN AN INTERNET COMPANY AND A TRADITIONAL MEDIA COMPANY ISN'T THE END OF THE WORLD. IT'S THE FUTURE. IT'S JUST A LOGICAL MARRIAGE.





# Village IDIOT

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MO, WHAT ARE YOU **DOING?!** THE DEAN'S RECEPTION IS AT EIGHT! I'M JUST GONNA CHANGE MY CLOTHES, THEN WE HAVE TO LEAVE!

I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD, SYDNEY.

333



A TIP O' THE NIB TO WILL MARQUESS!

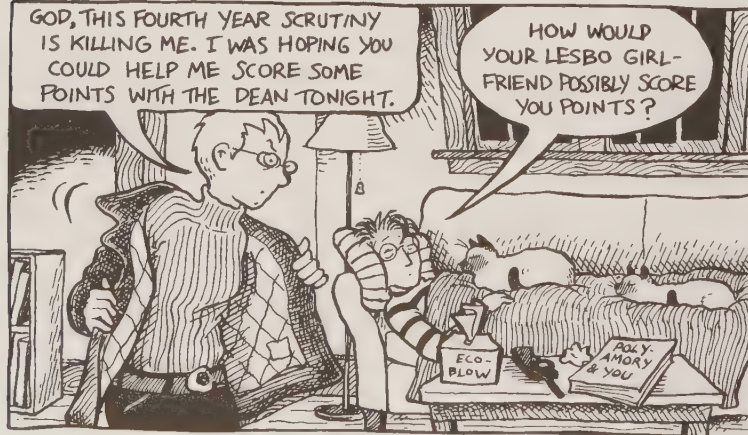
LOOK, I KNOW YOU HATE THESE THINGS, BUT I HARDLY EVER ASK YOU TO COME, AND THIS ONE'S IMPORTANT!

I THINK IT'S THE FLU. GO WITHOUT ME. YOU'LL BE FINE.



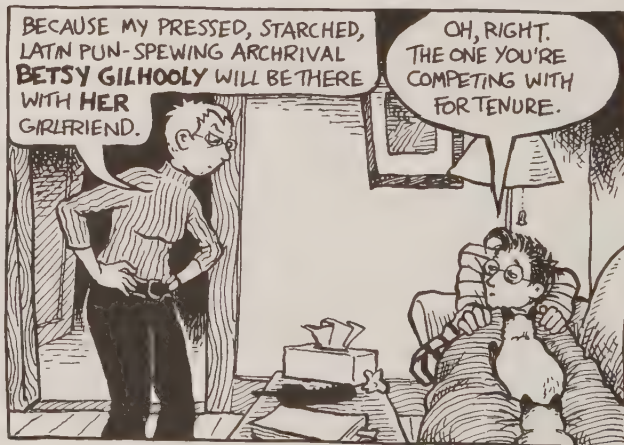
GOD, THIS FOURTH YEAR SCRUTINY IS KILLING ME. I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP ME SCORE SOME POINTS WITH THE DEAN TONIGHT.

HOW WOULD YOUR LESBO GIRL-FRIEND POSSIBLY SCORE YOU POINTS?

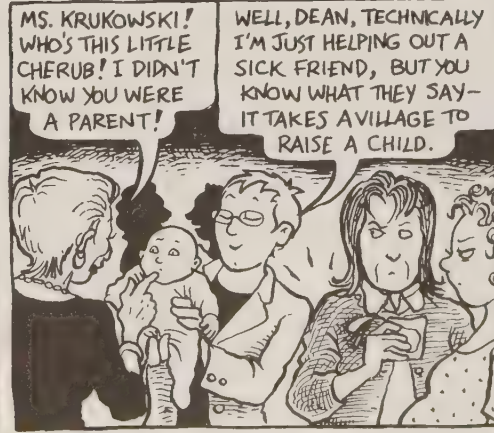
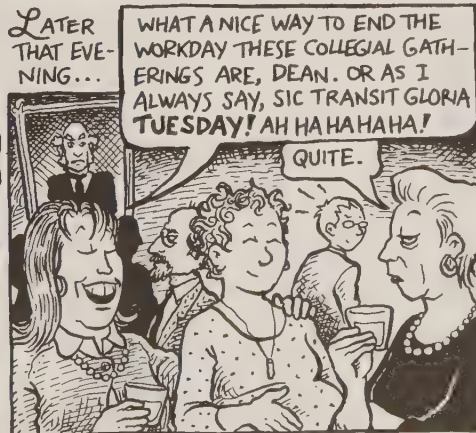
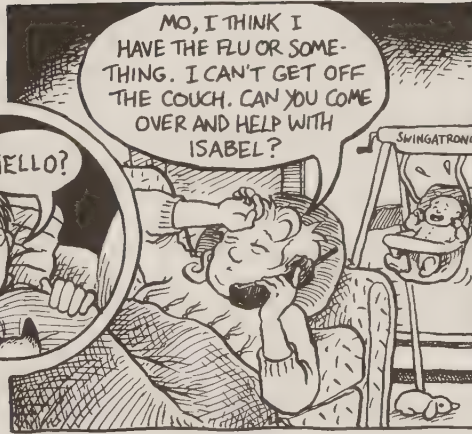
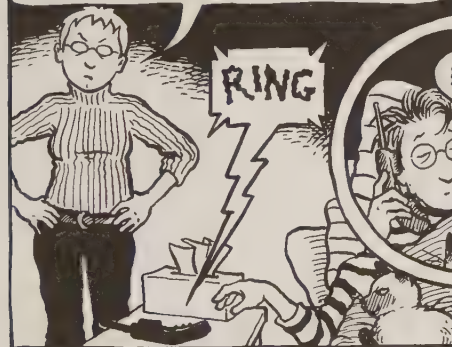


BECAUSE MY PRESSED, STARCHED, LATIN PUN-SPEWING ARCHRIVAL **BETSY GILHOOLY** WILL BE THERE WITH HER GIRLFRIEND.

OH, RIGHT. THE ONE YOU'RE COMPETING WITH FOR TENURE.



AND TO TOP IT OFF, NOW THE GIRLFRIEND'S PREGNANT. THE DEAN'S VERY BIG ON CHILDREN. EVEN BIOENGINEERED ONES.

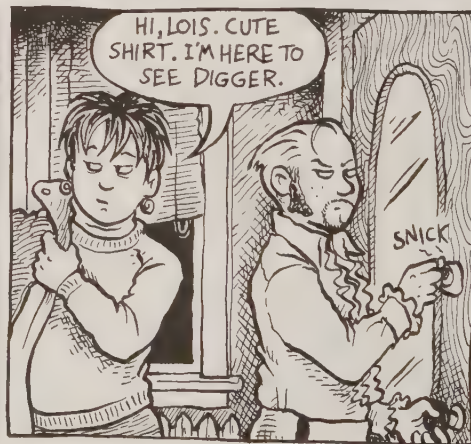
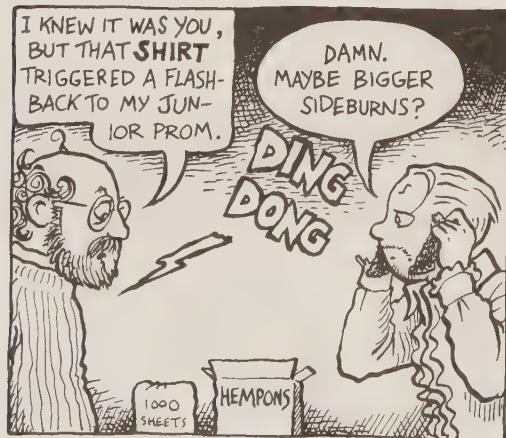




# OLD DOG NEW TRICKS

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A TIP O' THE NIB TO LASKY, KIRA & WALTER.

MEANWHILE, IN SUBURBIA ...

... OH, AND THIS AFTERNOON I FINALLY CONVINCED ANN NEXT DOOR TO HAVE SOME OF US FROM FREEDOM TO MARRY COME SPEAK TO HER **ROTARY CLUB** CHAPTER.



CLARICE, IF YOU WON'T STOP READING THAT BOOK LONG ENOUGH TO LISTEN TO ME, HOW'S IT SUPPOSED TO HELP OUR RELATIONSHIP?

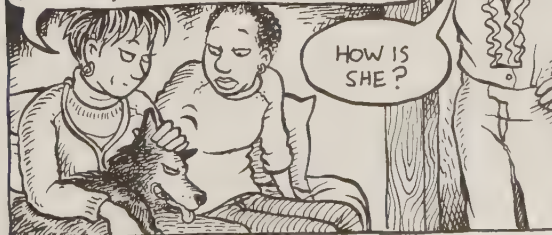


WAIT, I'M JUST CHECKING TO SEE IF THE WORDS "ROTARY CLUB" ARE LISTED IN THE SECTION ON "EXPANDING YOUR EROTIC VOCABULARY."



BACK AT GINGER'S HOUSE ...

SHE'S WEAK, BUT CLEARLY SHE'S STILL TAKING COMFORT IN EATING AND GETTING PETTED. YOU'LL HAVE TO DETERMINE WHEN THE DISCOMFORT STARTS TO OUTWEIGH THE PLEASURE. WHEN IT'S TIME, WE CAN DO IT RIGHT HERE.



BARAR-ARAR!!

BETTER THAN I THOUGHT.



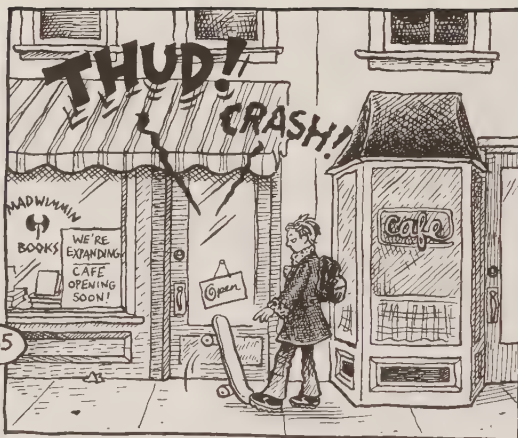
THANKS, DIGGER. I'LL DEFINITELY KEEP THE MUTTON-CHOPS.



# A FINE MESS

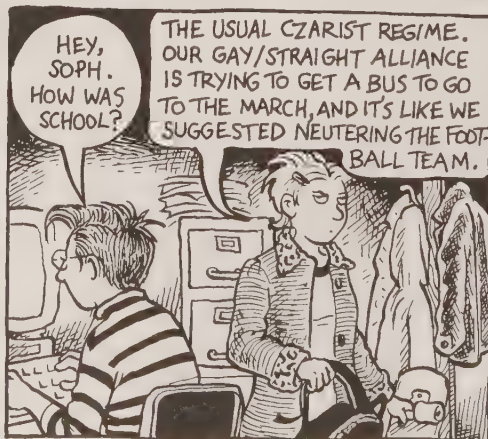
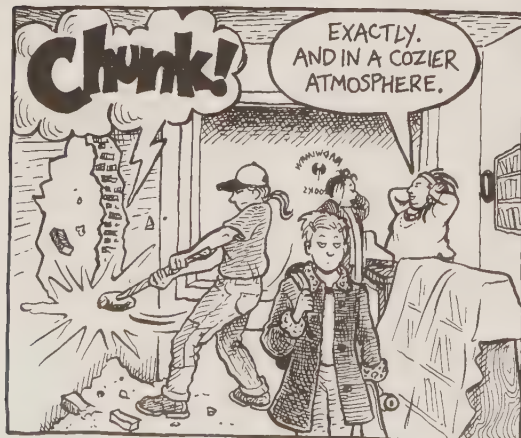
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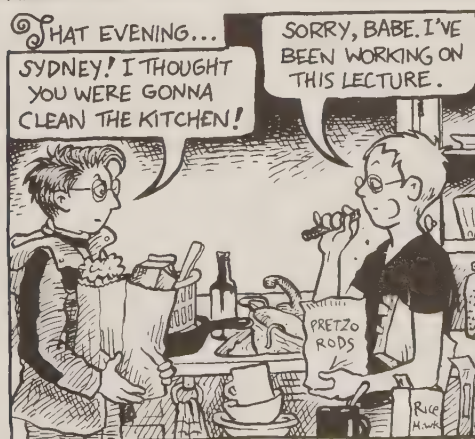
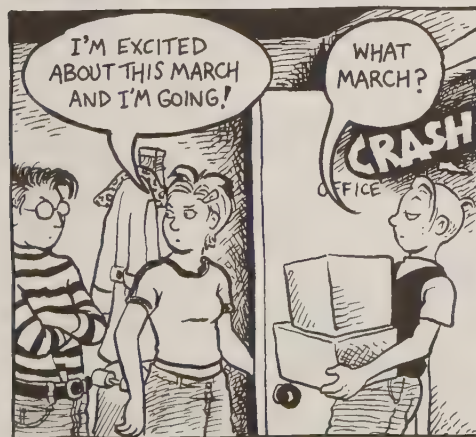
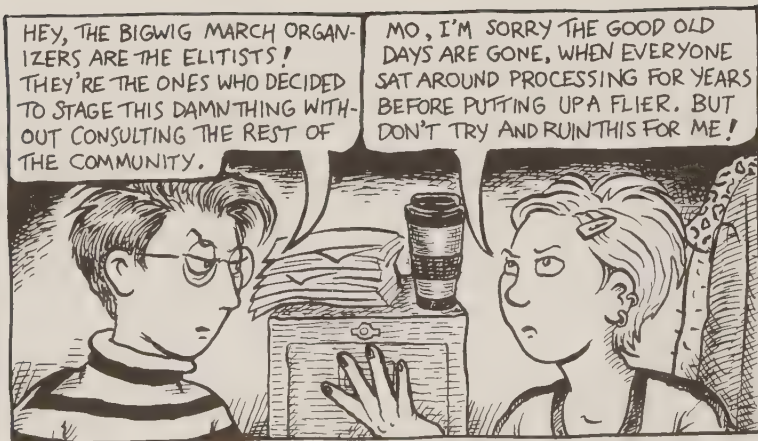
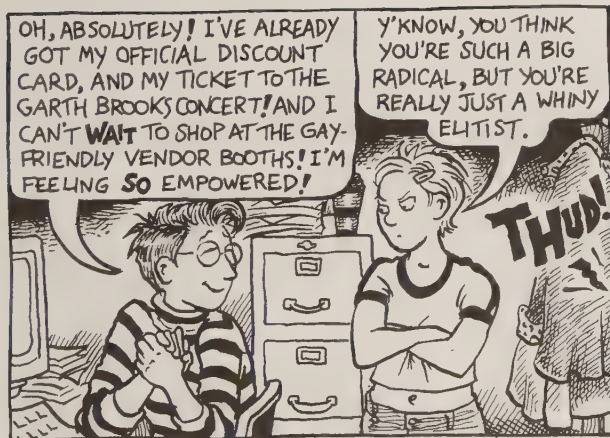
335



...AND I WORKED OUT A DEAL WITH THE WOMEN WHO RUN THE CAFÉ NEXT DOOR, AND WE'RE CONNECTING OUR SPACES.

HUH. SO NOW PEOPLE CAN GET COFFEE STAINS AND CRUMBS ALL OVER YOUR BOOKS INSTEAD OF THE ONES AT BUNNS & NOODLE.







# HOOP DREAMS

## PART 1

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WHO'S SYDNEY TALKING TO?  
I WONDER IF MO FINALLY  
FOLDED AND AGREED TO AN  
OPEN RELATIONSHIP?

LOIS, I'M TRY-  
ING TO WATCH  
THE GAME.

LOOK, THERE'S  
YOUR LITTLE FRIEND  
CLARICE.

dot.com.com

GO FIGHT WIN  
Lady  
PORCUPINES!

90.7 FM

HI, LOIS. HI,  
GINGER. GOOD  
GAME, HUH?

WHATEVER.  
WATCH MY SEAT.  
I'M GONNA GO GET  
A DRINK.

DE-FENSE!  
DE-FENSE!

MEANWHILE,  
AT THE OTHER  
END OF THE  
BLEACHERS...

CAN YOU KEEP AN EYE  
ON RAFFI TILL CLARICE  
GETS BACK? I'M GOING  
TO THE BATHROOM.

The Distress

MY FIRST  
BOOK OF  
SNAKES

IN THE LOBBY...

HEY, LOIS! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AT A GAME BEFORE.

UH... HI, JERRY. I JUST CAME WITH MY HOUSEMATE. ARE YOU A FAN?



A FAN?! SEE THAT TROPHY? I WAS A LADY PORCUPINE THE YEAR WE WENT TO THE NCAA'S!

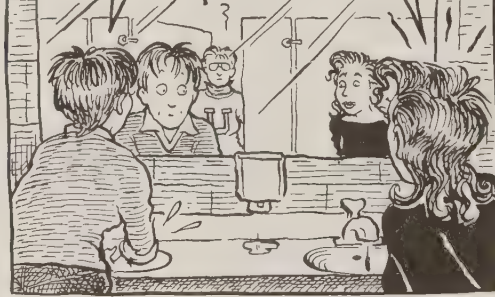


©AND IN THE LADIES ROOM...

TONI!

GLORIA?!!

Flush?



BUT...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN ALBUQUERQUE!

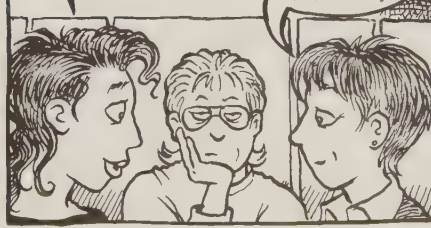
WE JUST MOVED BACK LAST WEEK! ANA GOT TRANSFERRED AGAIN.



I... NOBODY TOLD ME!

I THOUGHT OF CALLING YOU. BUT YOU KNOW, WE HAVEN'T BEEN IN TOUCH... AND WE PARTED ON SUCH AN AWKWARD NOTE.

SO HOW'S RAFFI? AND UH, CLARICE?



©BACK IN THE STANDS...

YESSS!



©HEW! THE LADY PORCUPINES ARE UP BY ONE AT THE HALFTIME BUZZER! TUNE IN NEXT TIME AS THE TECHNICAL FOULS CONTINUE!



# HOOP DREAMS PART 2

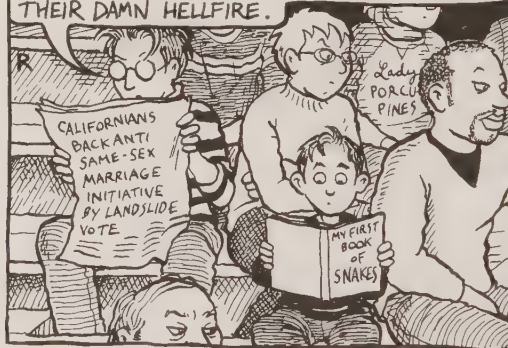
©2000 BY ALISON BECHDEL

WE  
LAST  
LEFT  
OUR  
SPORADIC  
SPORTSFANS  
AT HALF-  
TIME.

PLAY  
APPEARS  
TO HAVE  
RESUMED.

337

Y'KNOW, IT'S NOT SO MUCH THE EVANGELICAL  
TYPES I HAVE A PROBLEM WITH. THERE'S NO  
REASONING WITH THEM, SO LET THEM HAVE  
THEIR DAMN HELLFIRE.



IT'S THE REST OF THESE COM-  
PLACENT YAHOO'S I WANT TO  
SMACK. WHAT DO **THEY** BELIEVE  
IN? **DAVID LETTERMAN**? YET  
TAKE A POLL, AND IT'S "SAME-  
SEX MARRIAGE? UH, I DON'T  
THINK SO. CAN I HAVE MY  
REMOTE BACK NOW?"



MEANWHILE, IN THE LOBBY...

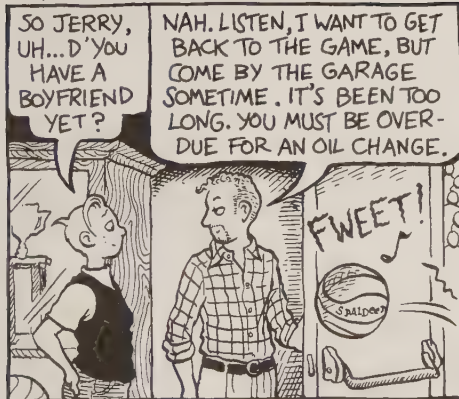
GLORIA, WE'VE GOT TO GET  
TOGETHER! I CAN TELL YOU  
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO  
KNOW ABOUT SCHOOLS FOR  
STELLA.

GO LADY  
PORCUPINES

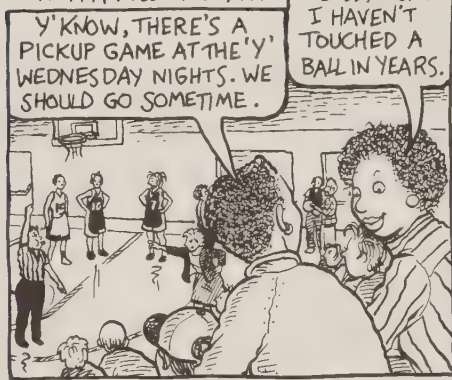
I CAN'T BELIEVE  
IT'S BEEN FIVE  
YEARS! YOU  
REALLY LOOK  
GREAT!

WOM

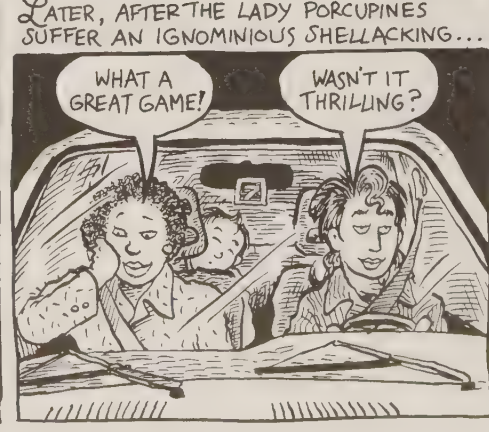
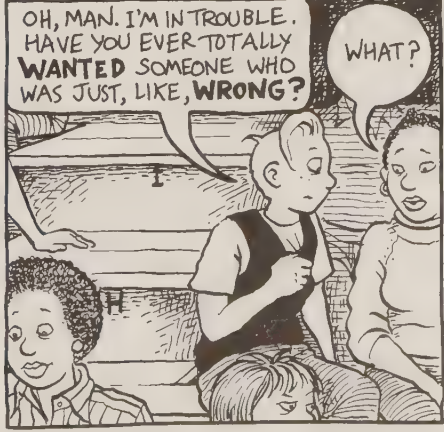
©AND LOIS IS LOBBYING TOO...



GINGER AND CLARICE FLIRT WITH A POSSIBILITY...



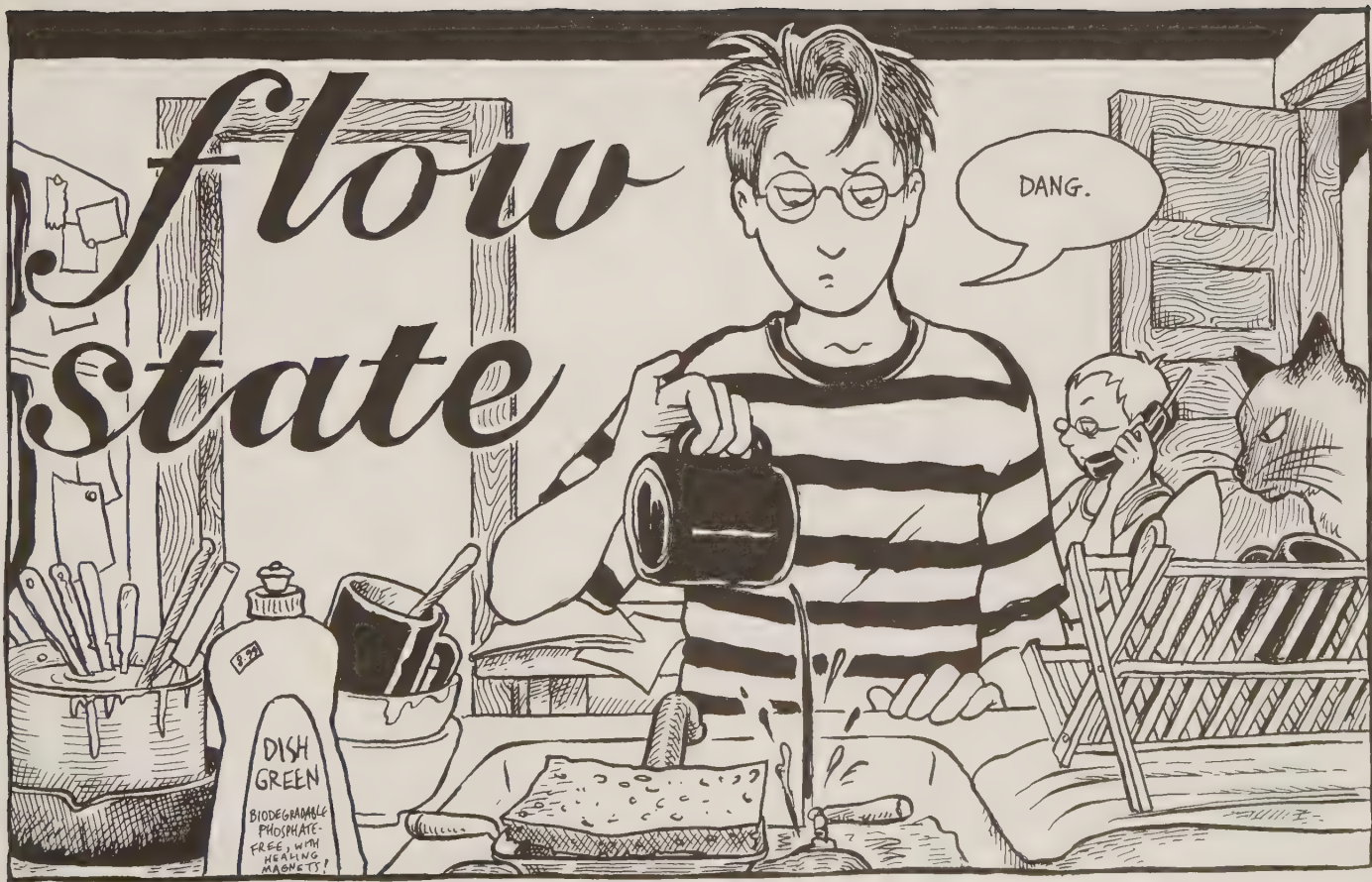
©AND ACROSS THE BLEACHERS...



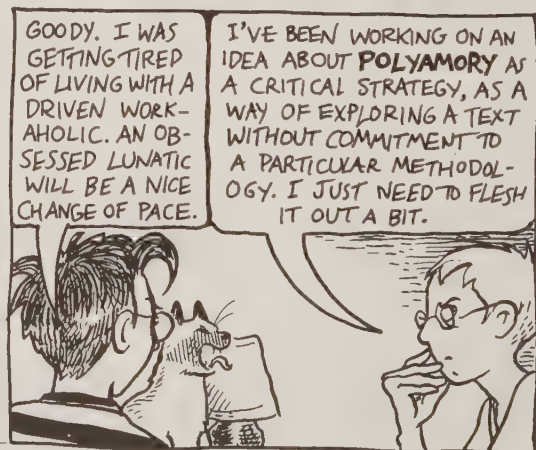
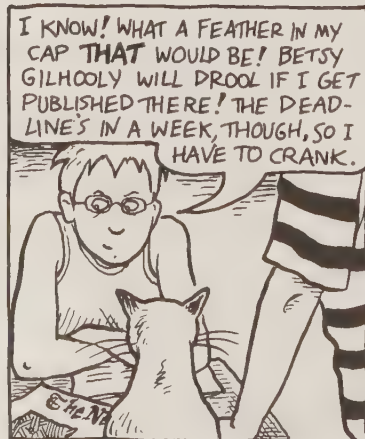
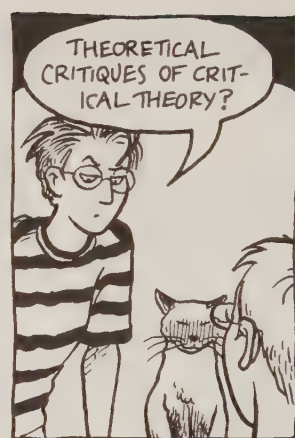
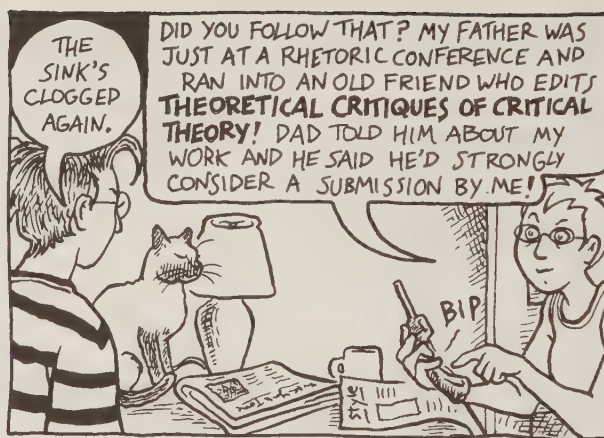
LATER, AFTER THE LADY PORCUPINES SUFFER AN IGNOMINIOUS SHELLACKING...

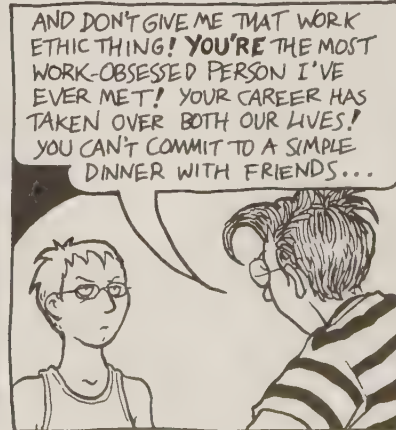
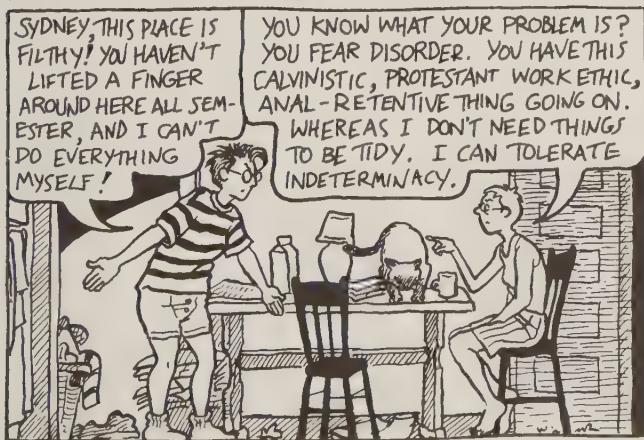
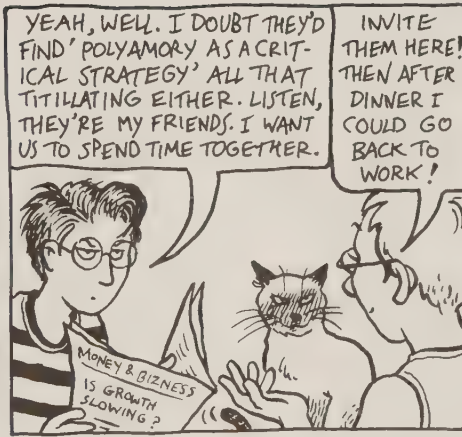
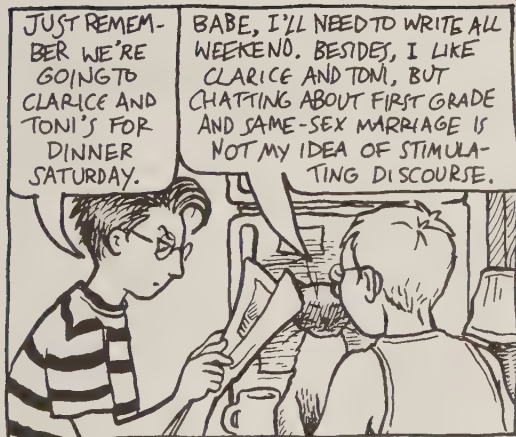




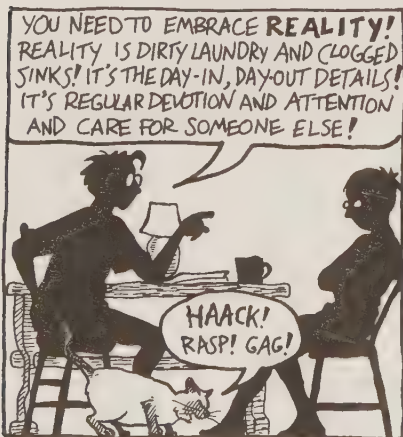






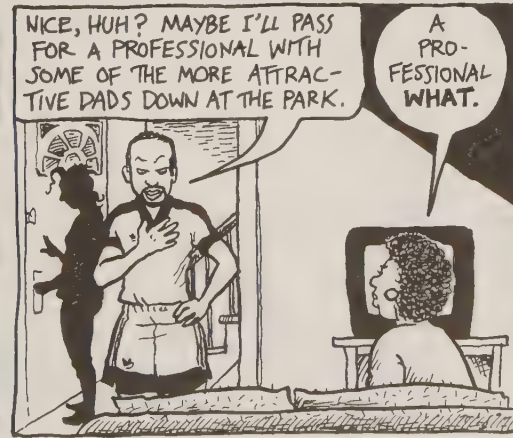






MEANWHILE, IT'S THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH FOR OUR MODEL COUPLE...







WHATEVER. SO HOW ARE THINGS IN MONOGAMYVILLE? VIBRATOR ALL PLUGGED IN AND READY TO GO?

PLUG THIS IN, PELÉ.

OW! I'M JUST TRYING TO SHOW AN INTEREST IN YOUR CUSTOMS!

CARLOS, A WORD OF ADVICE. IF YOU REALLY WANT PEOPLE TO THINK YOU'RE A PRO, DON'T GO NEAR A SOCCER BALL.

YOU'RE SO CONGENIAL, CLARICE. NO WONDER TONI FANTASIZES ABOUT GLORIA WHEN YOU TWO GO AT IT.

WHAT?

G-L-O-R-I-A-A-Y!

GLORIA? YOU'RE STILL THINKING ABOUT GLORIA?

NICE, CARLOS.

WHAT? HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW? I THOUGHT LESBIANS TOLD EACH OTHER EVERYTHING!

GLORIA? BUT...BUT SHE MOVED TO ALBUQUERQUE FOUR YEARS AGO!

WELL, SHE'S BACK NOW. *¡RAFAEL!* *¡MI GUANDULITO!* \* ARE YOU READY?

\* MY LITTLE PIGEON PEA



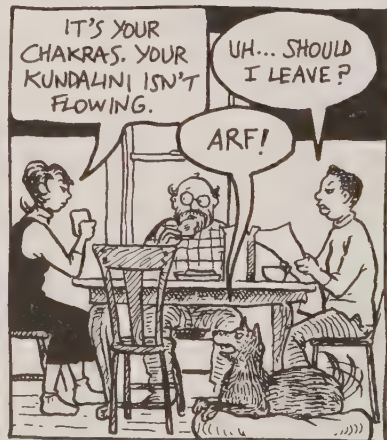
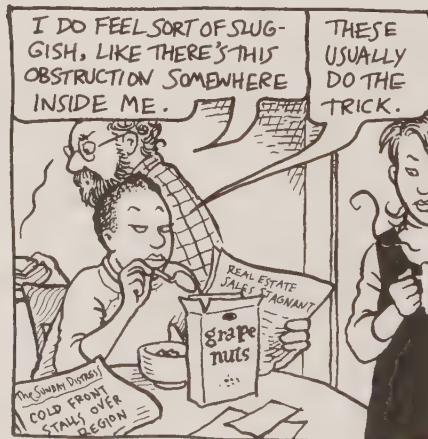
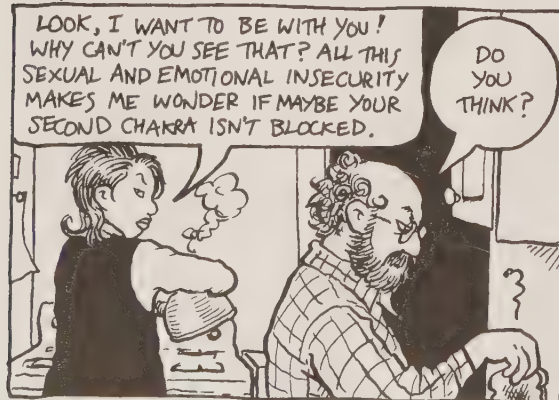
AND OVER AT SPARROW, STUART, LOIS & GINGER'S DOMICILE...

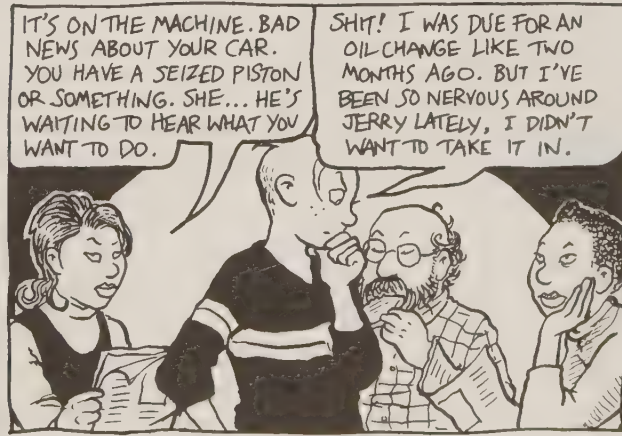
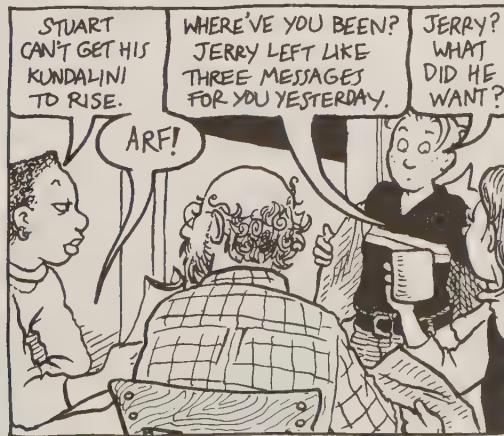
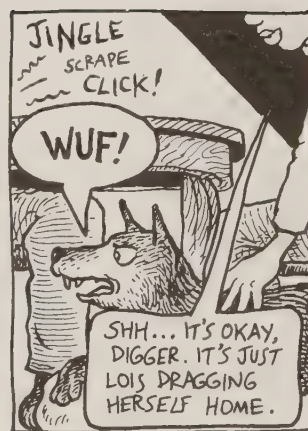
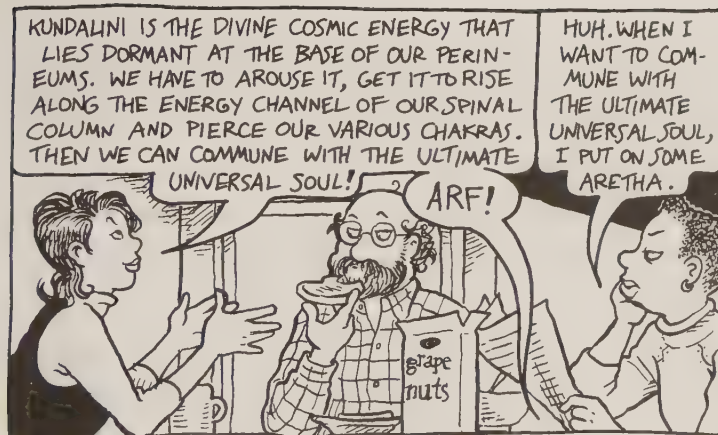






A BIT LATER...

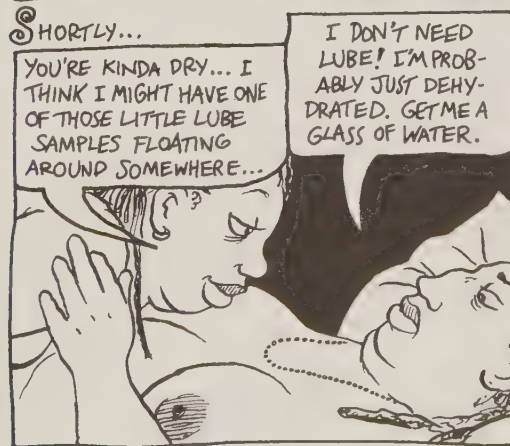




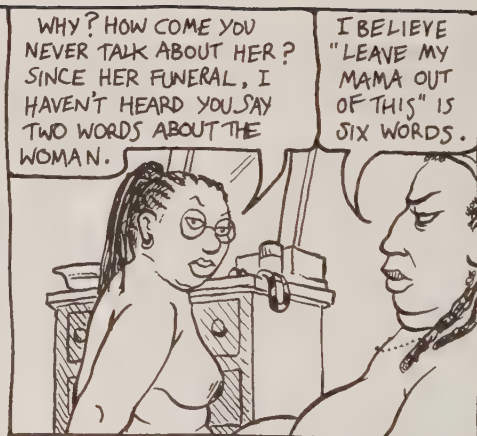
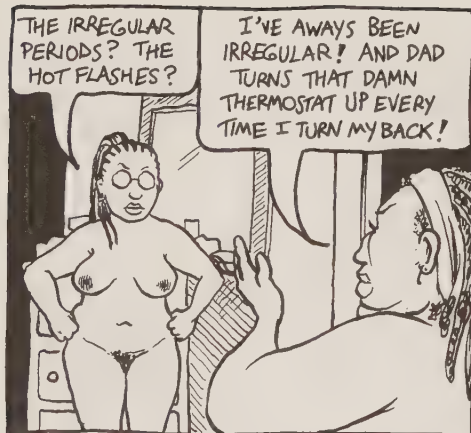




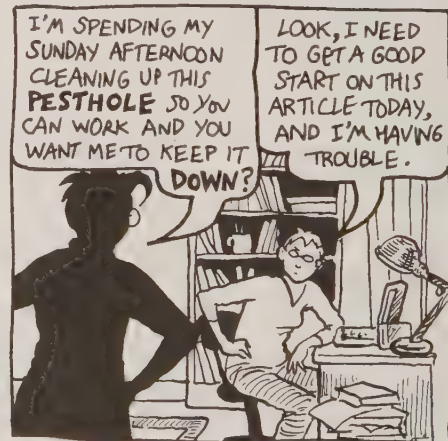
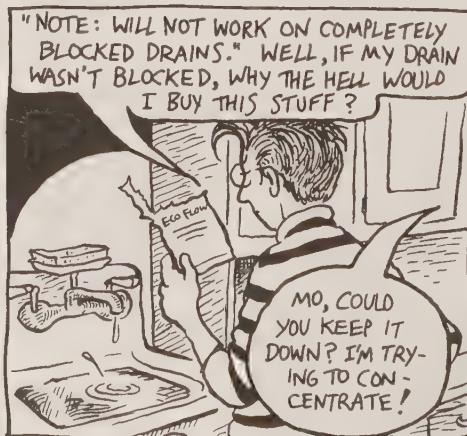
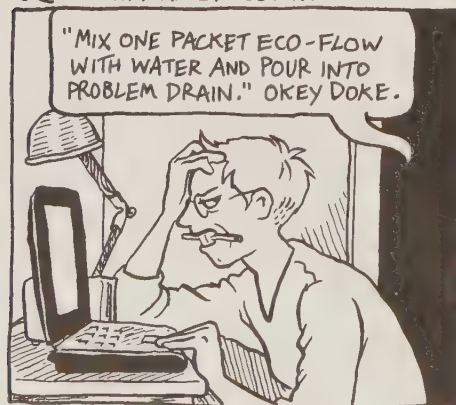
THINGS ARE AMISS AT JEZANNA'S HOUSE, TOO.

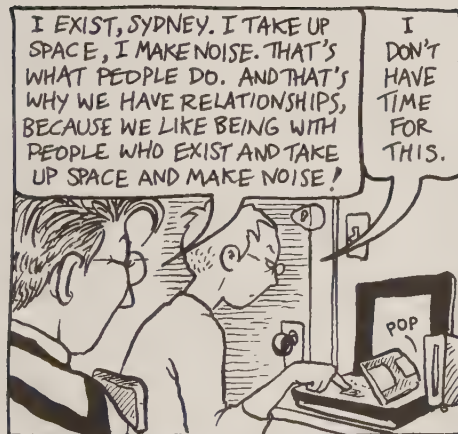




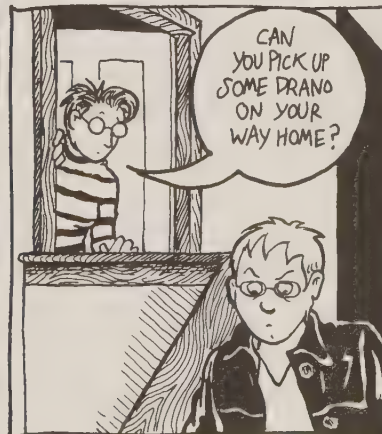


LATER THAT AFTERNOON...



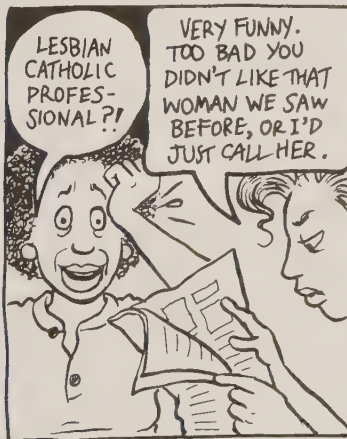
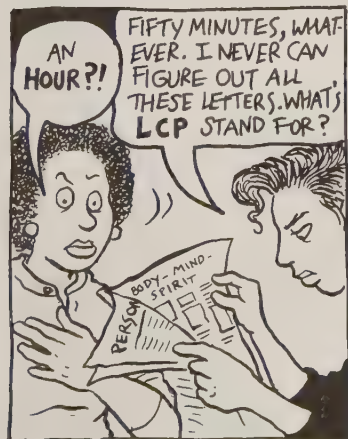


MEANWHILE...



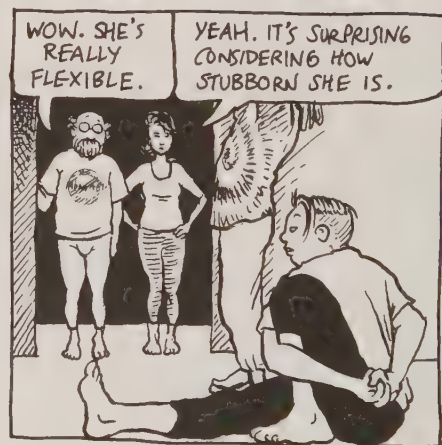
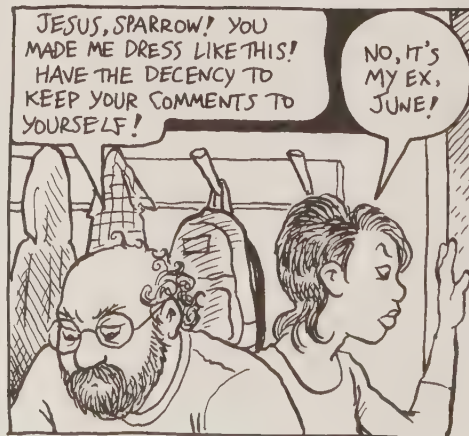
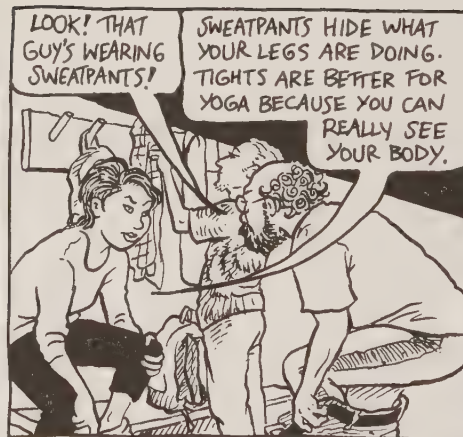


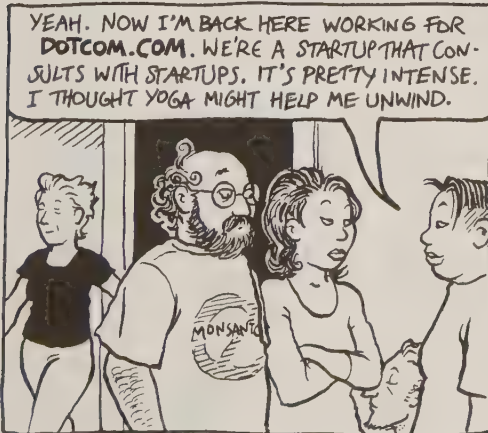
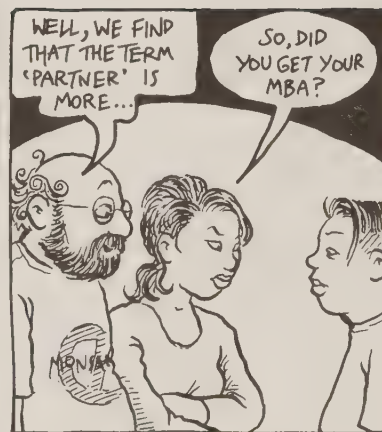
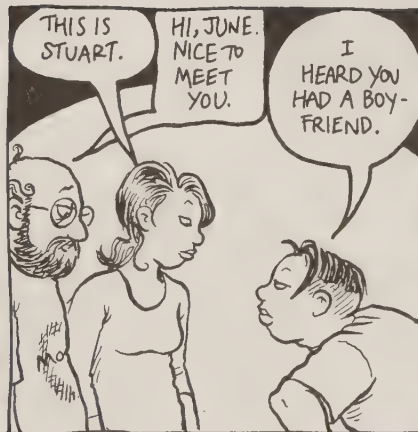
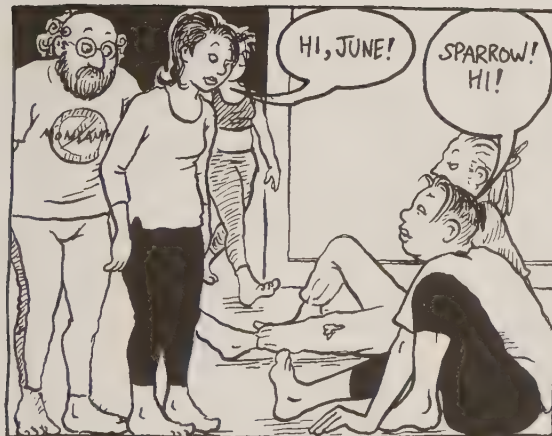






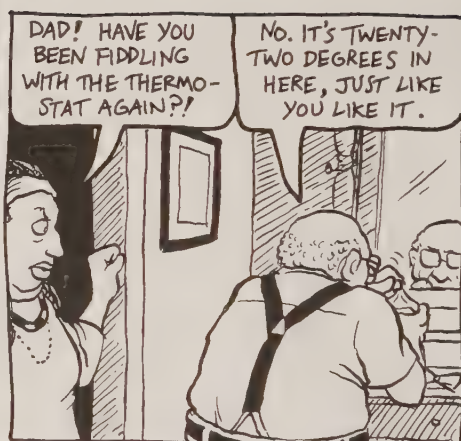
tuesday evening...





A TIP OF THE HAT TO AMY TRIKONASANA RADCLIFFE

OVER AT JEZANNA'S...



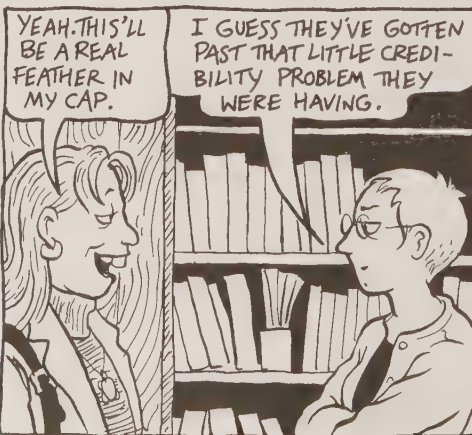


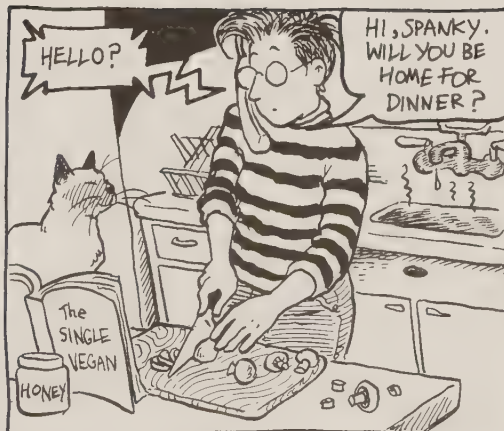


©MEANWHILE, SYDNEY'S WORKING  
LATE...



A TRO' THE NIB TO HELEN SCOTT!

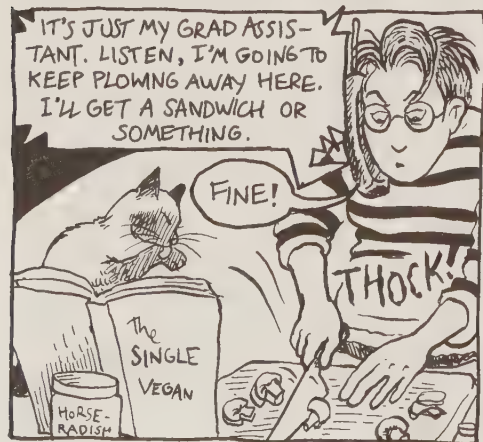


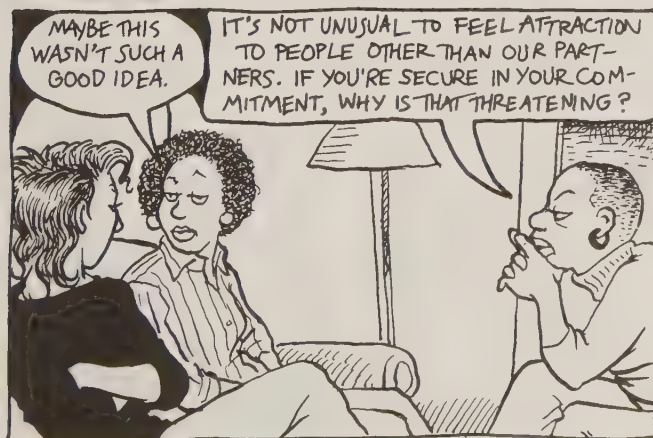


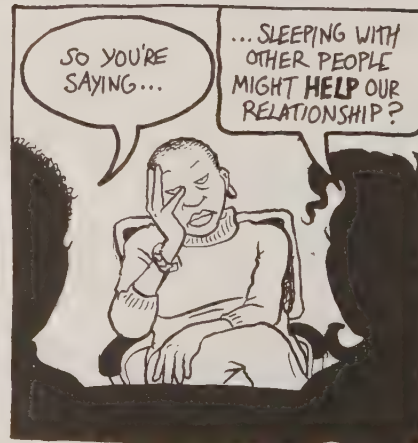
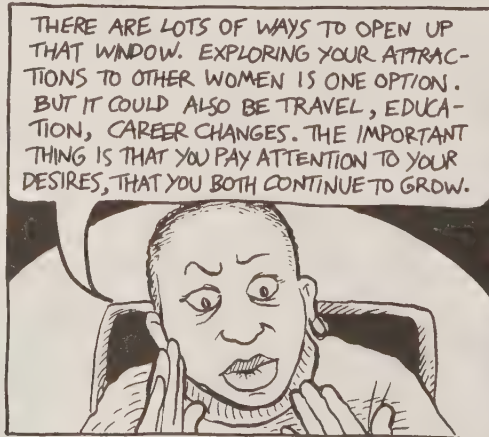
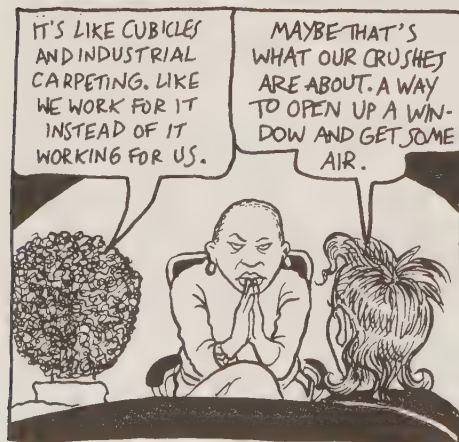
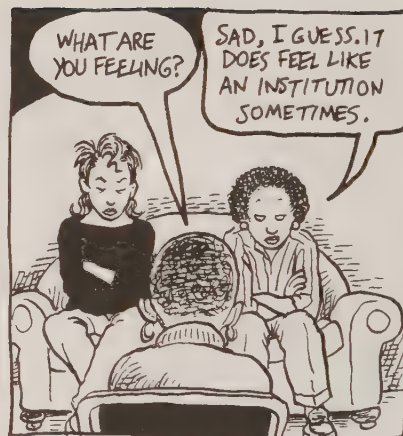




CLARICE AND TONI ARE HAVING THEIR THREESOME.





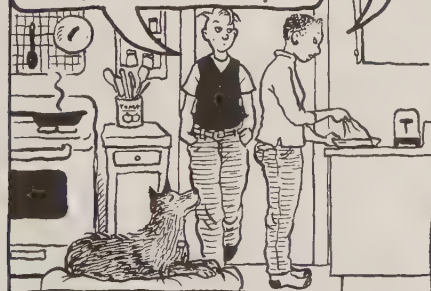




MEANWHILE...

GINGER, CAN YOU GIVE ME  
A RIDE TO RAINBOW AUTO-  
MOTIVE TOMORROW NIGHT  
TO PICK UP MY CAR?

SURE.  
WHEN?



ANYTIME AFTER SIX.  
I DON'T WANT TO RUN  
INTO JERRY.

LOIS,  
WHAT'S GOING  
ON?!



I DUNNO. I  
MEAN, I'VE BEEN REALLY  
GETTING INTO THIS DRAG  
KING STUFF... AND NOW I'M  
ATTRACTED TO A TRANS MAN!  
WHAT'S THE DEAL?! AM  
I A FAG?



LOIS, YOU'RE JUST  
YOU. SINCE WHEN ARE  
YOU SO HUNG UP ON  
TERMINOLOGY?

I KNOW.  
WHAT'S MY  
PROBLEM?



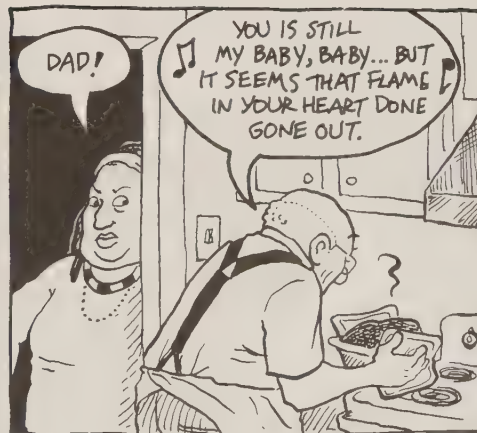
ANYHOW, JERRY LIKES  
GUYS. IT'S NOT LIKE ANY-  
THING'S GONNA HAPPEN.

THAT'S MY  
PROBLEM.

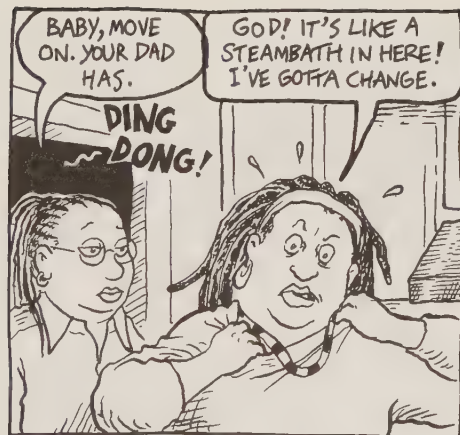




# friday night...





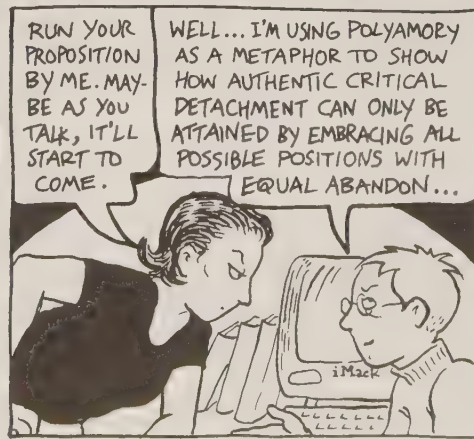
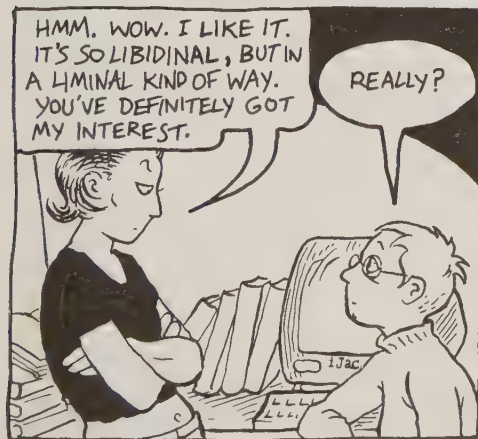
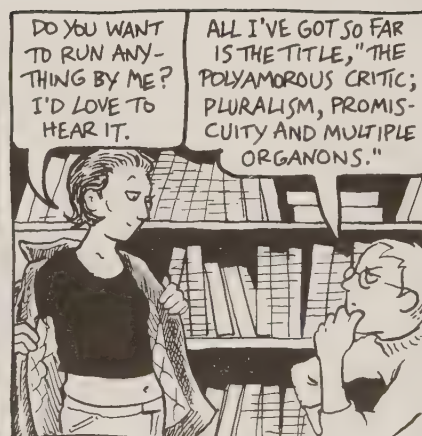
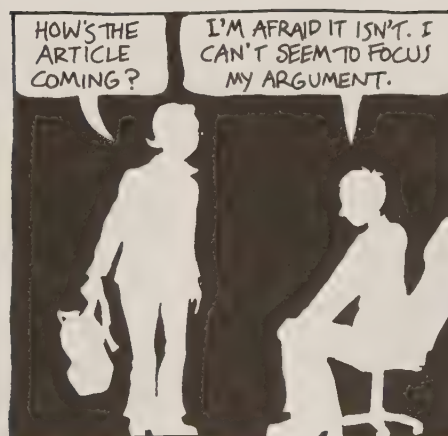
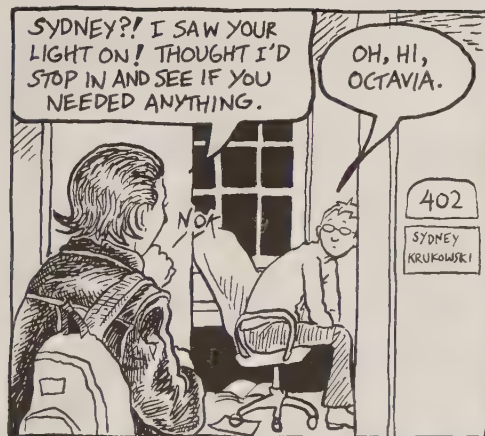


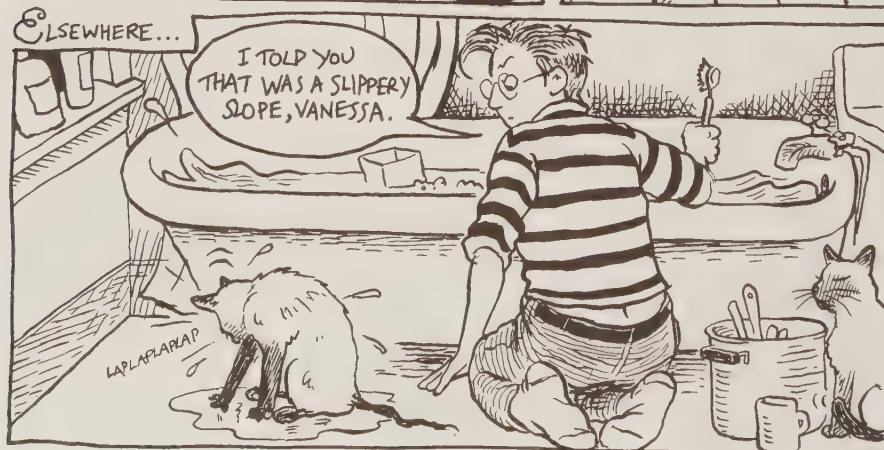
MEANWHILE, AT MO'S...



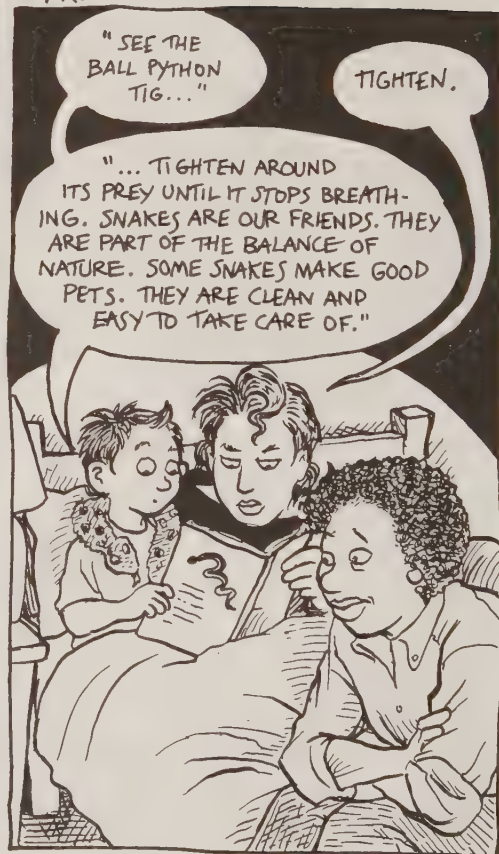
AND AT THE UNIVERSITY...







MEANWHILE...

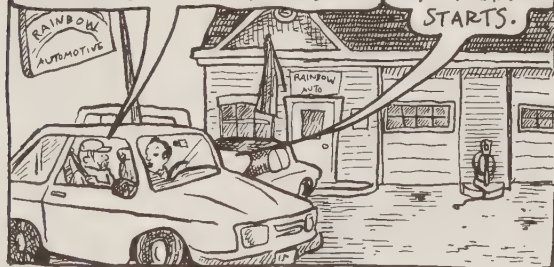






MEANWHILE...

THANKS FOR THE LIFT, GINGER.  
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT  
TO COME TO THE DRAG KING  
SHOW? MAX AXEL'S BECOMING  
SOMETHING OF A LOCAL LEGEND.



TEMPTING,  
BUT IT'S BEEN  
A LONG WEEK.  
I'LL WAIT TO  
MAKE SURE  
YOUR CAR  
STARTS.



I WAS WORKING LATE ON A  
VALVE JOB. COME ON IN.  
YOUR CAR'S IN THE  
BAY.



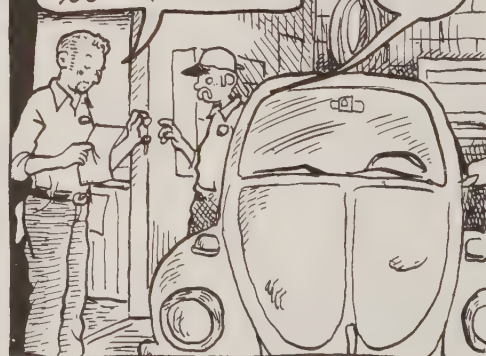
SO.  
YOU'RE  
MAX  
TONIGHT.

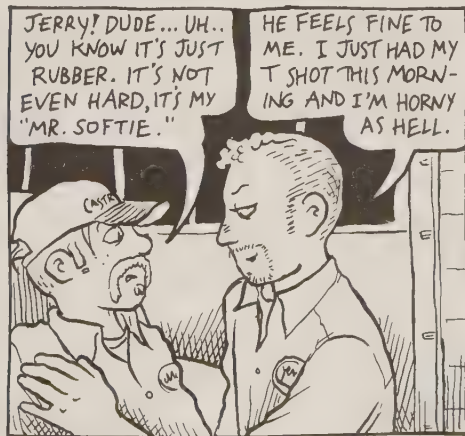
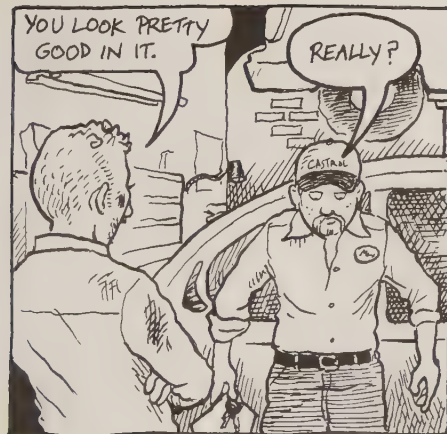
YEAH, UM... THERE'S A SHOW  
DOWN AT CLUB L. JEEZ, I HOPE  
YOU'RE NOT INSULTED THAT I'M  
PLAYING AROUND LIKE THIS. I  
MEAN, I KNOW YOUR MUSTACHE  
DOESN'T PEEL OFF.



LOIS, RELAX. IF IT BOTHERED  
ME, I WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN  
YOU THAT UNIFORM.

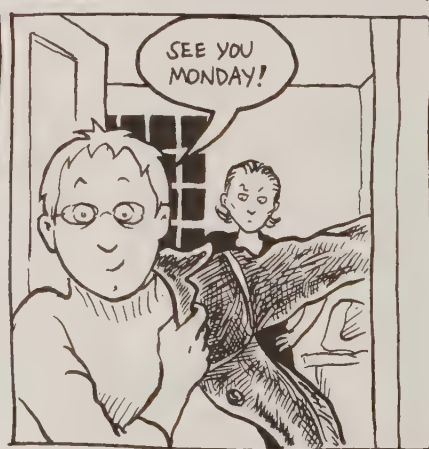
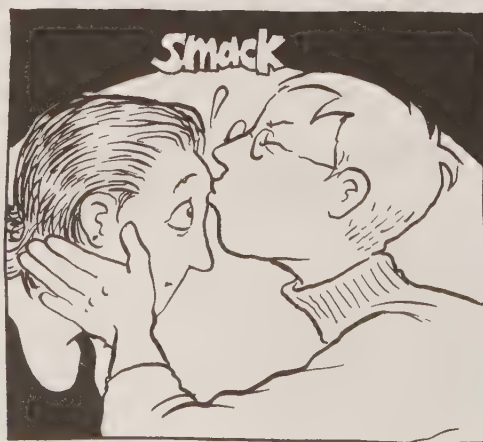
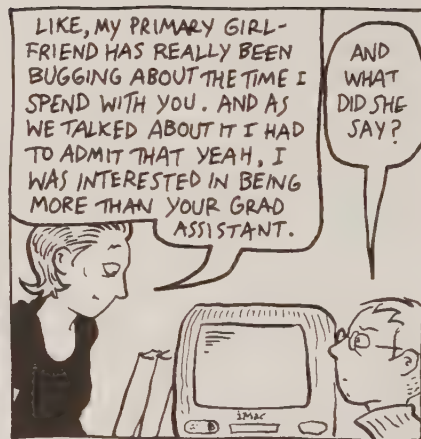
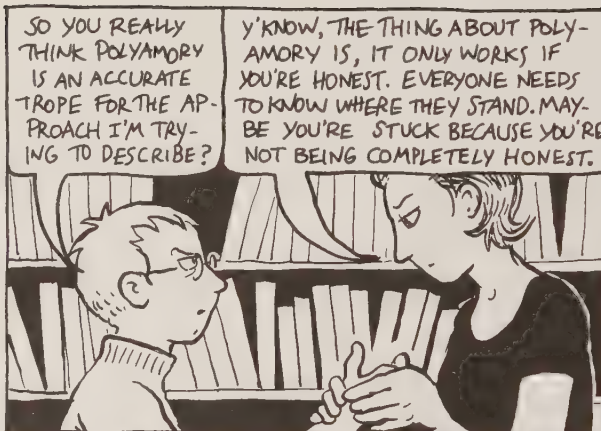
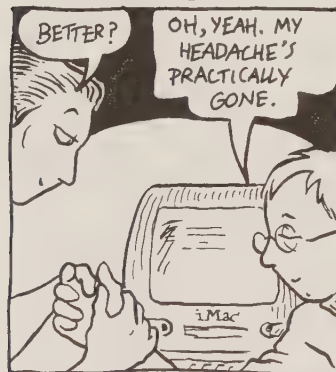
OH.  
RIGHT.



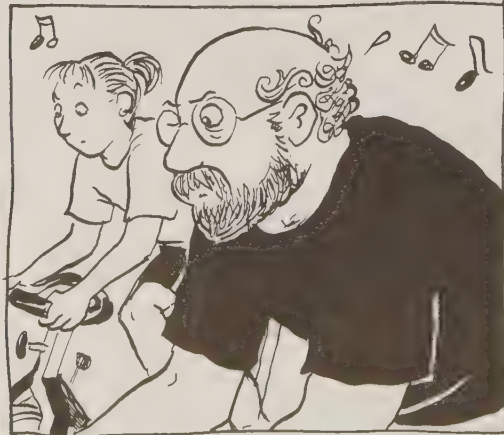
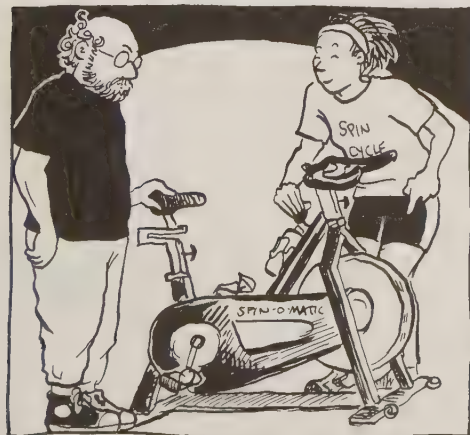




MEANWHILE, IN THE GROOVE  
OF ACADEME...



STUART'S GOING FOR A SPIN...

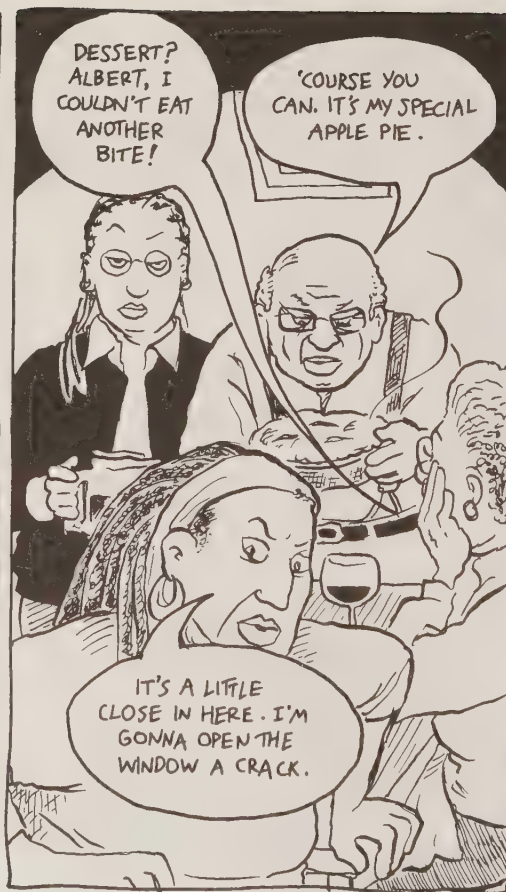


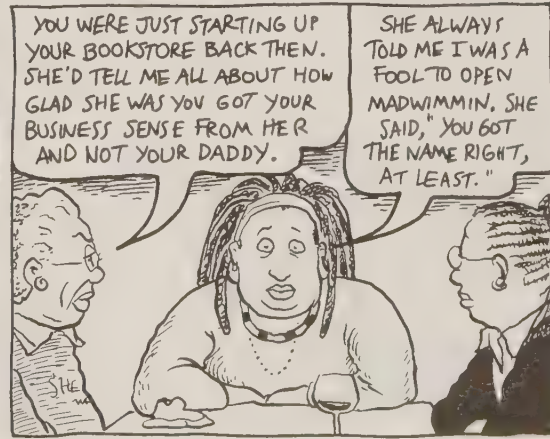
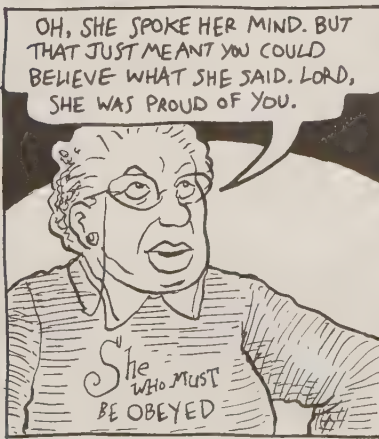
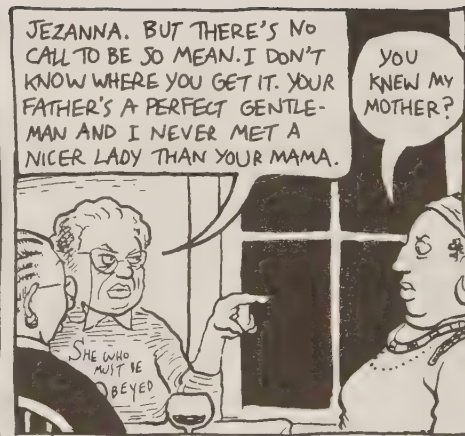
BACK AT TH' RANCH...



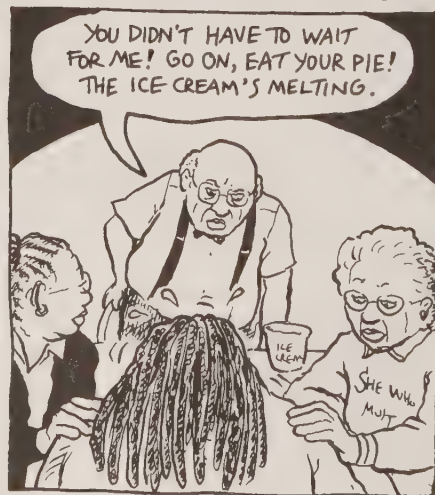


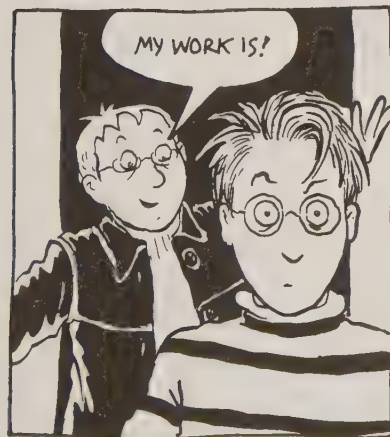
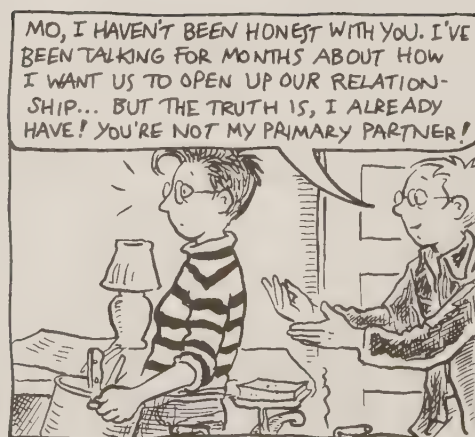
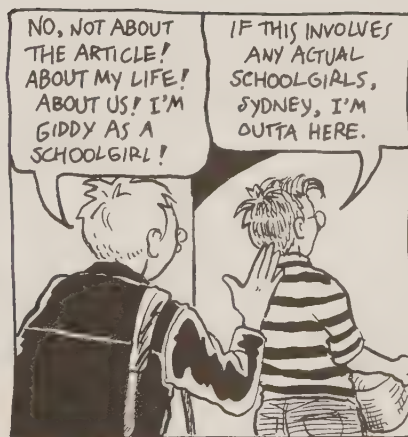
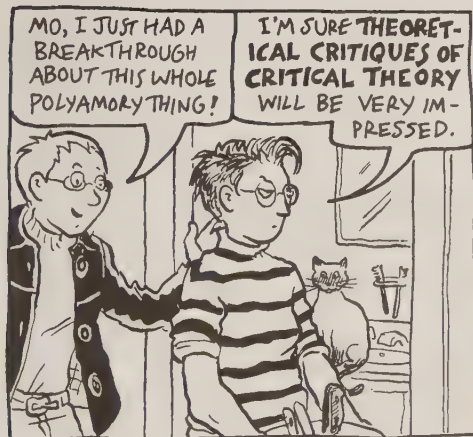


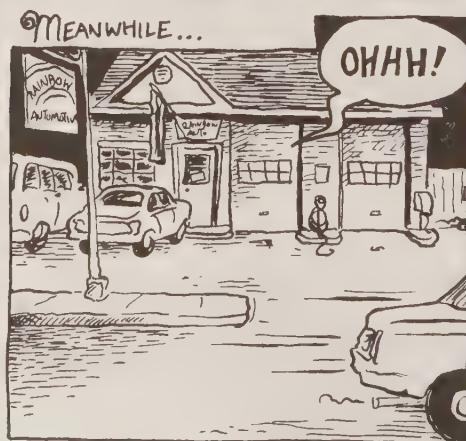
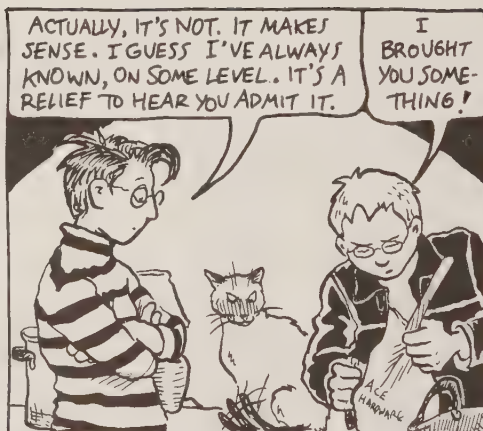
















I CAN JUST SUBMIT THE ARTICLE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. I'VE GOT A WHOLE NEW TAKE ON IT NOW, ANYWAY. WHAT WAS I THINKING? CAN ONE POSSIBLY ACHIEVE AUTHENTIC CRITICAL DETACHMENT UNLESS ONE IS CRITICALLY **ENGAGED**? I DON'T THINK SO!

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE THE OTHER WOMAN.

**Glorp**

GOD, THAT WAS WILD! I MEAN, I'VE COME FROM BLOWJOBS BEFORE, BUT IT WAS ALWAYS MORE... CONCEPTUAL. THIS WAS LIKE YOU WERE SUCKING MY DICK! MY ACTUAL DICK!

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HANDY WITH TOOLS.

Strapon Tools

SO, UH... DO YOU WANNA GO SOMEPLACE LESS LIKE THE SET OF A PORN MOVIE?

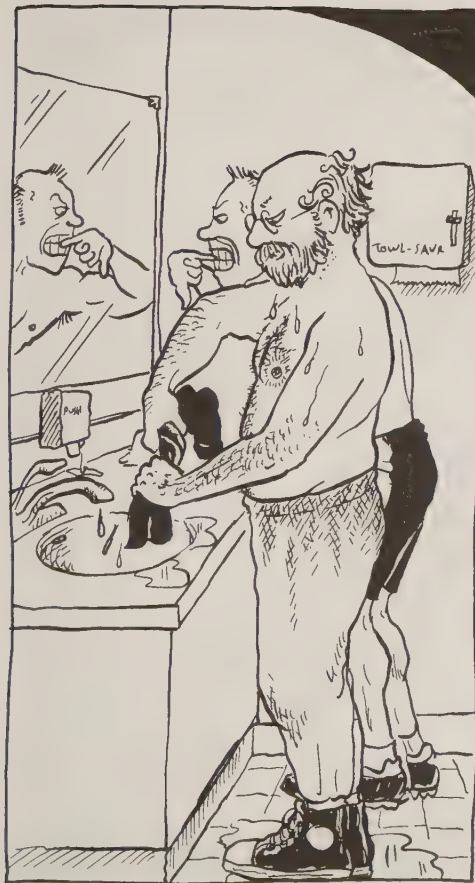
I DON'T THINK SO. THIS IS NICE, BUT YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MY TYPE, YOU KNOW.

YEAH. TOO BAD I'M NOT A BOY, OR YOU'RE NOT A GIRL.

THE PROFESSIONAL  
BRAKE  
AND  
SERVICE

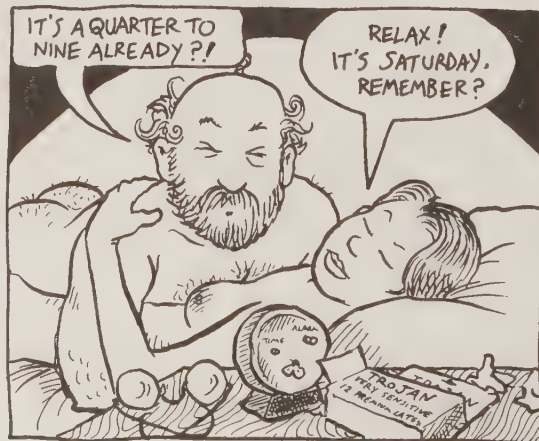
HEY, YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE. I'VE BEEN REPAIRING THIS CAR OF YOURS FOR TEN YEARS AND YOU NEVER GAVE ME A SECOND LOOK WHEN I WAS GERALDINE.

YOU WERE WAY TOO BUTCH FOR ME THEN, DUDE.





the next morning...



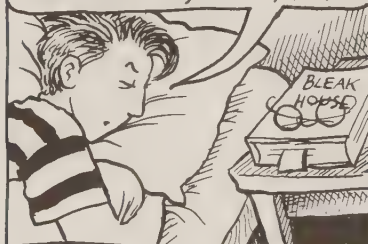
@ATMO AND  
SYDNEY'S...

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING?

WAITING FOR YOU TO GET UP  
SO I CAN START VACUUMING.  
AND I WAS HOPING YOU COULD  
HELP ME HAUL OUT THE RECY-  
CLING BEFORE YOU LEFT FOR WORK.



HEY, I'M THE FLING. GET YOUR  
PRIMARY PARTNER TO DO THAT  
STUFF. WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO  
SHARE EXALTED MOMENTS OF SEX-  
UAL TRANSCENDENCE, COM-  
PLETELY OBLIVIOUS TO THE MUN-  
DANE EXIGENCIES OF DAILY LIFE.



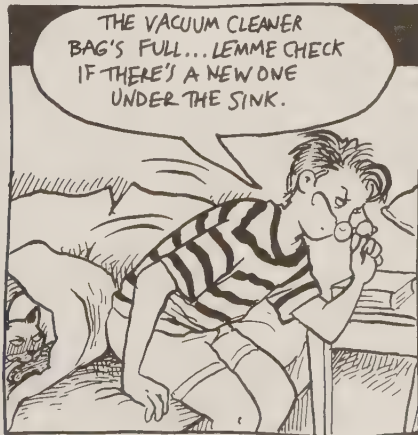
COME BACK  
TO BED.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? TRAN-  
SCENDENCE OR TIDINESS?

CULTURE  
IS  
ORDINARY



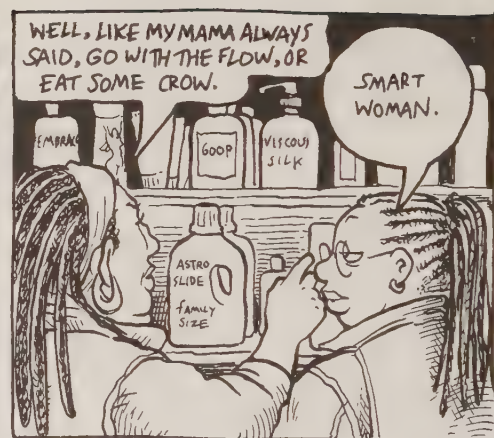
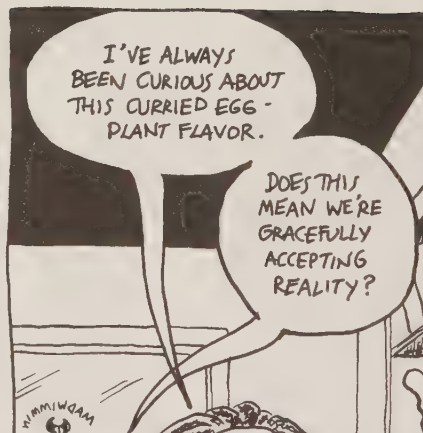
THE VACUUM CLEANER  
BAG'S FULL... LEMME CHECK  
IF THERE'S A NEW ONE  
UNDER THE SINK.



HEY,  
I'M HUNGRY!  
I THOUGHT WE  
WERE GONNA  
HAVE BREAKFAST  
BEFORE YOU  
OPENED UP.

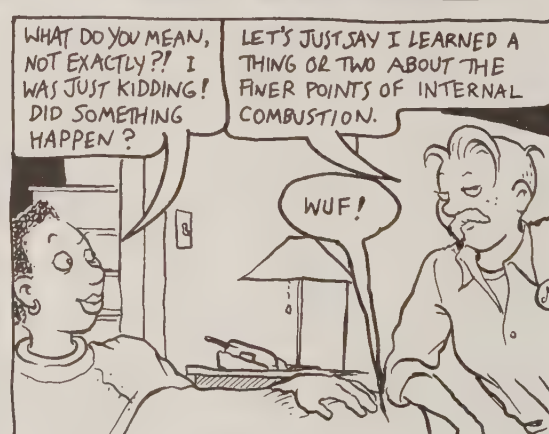
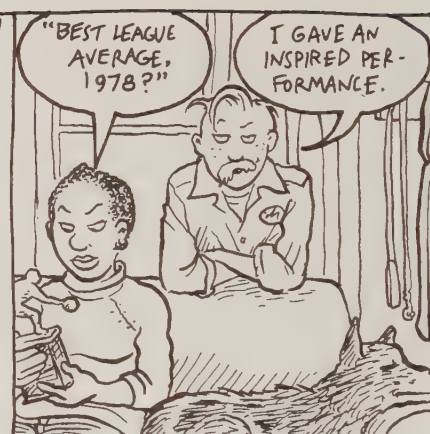
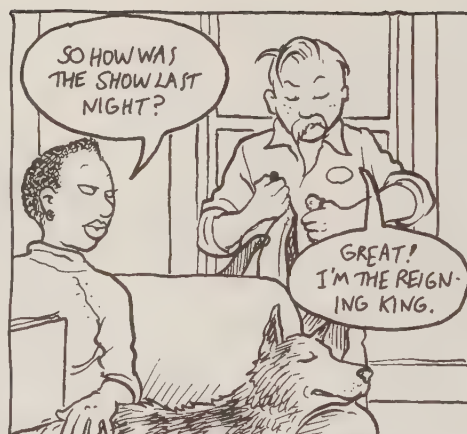
I'M  
NOT OPENING  
UP YET. I JUST  
WANNA DO SOME-  
THING BEFORE  
ANYONE ELSE  
GETS HERE.











SHORTLY...

WOW.  
YOU'RE SO,  
UH... COLOR-  
FUL.

IT'S OPTIC  
YELLOW. IT  
MAKES YOU  
REALLY  
VISIBLE  
TO CARS.

YEAH, I'VE HEARD  
YOU CAN GET  
INTO SOME  
PRETTY HEAVY  
TRAFFIC ON  
THOSE INDOOR  
STATIONARY  
BIKES.



I THINK  
YOU LOOK  
GREAT, STU.

THANK  
YOU, LOIS.



NICE  
PACKAGE,  
TOO.

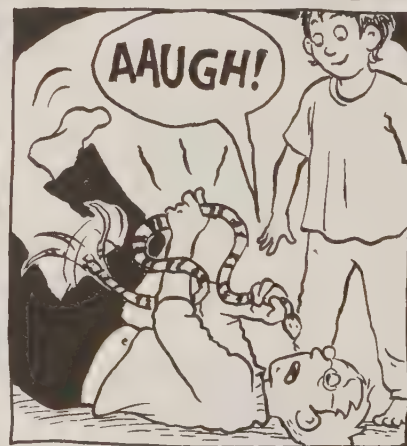
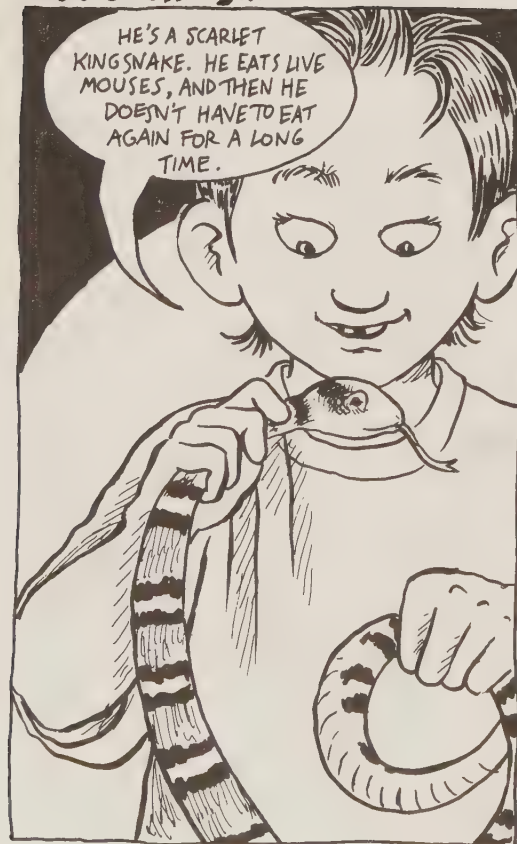


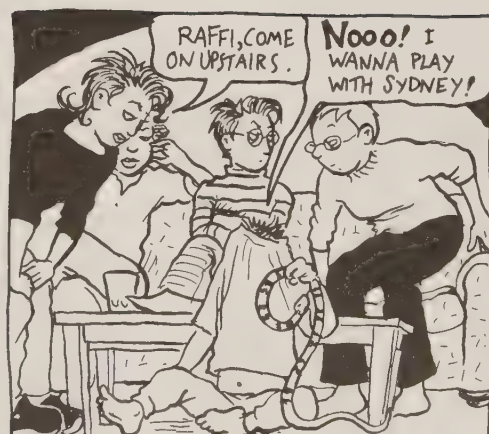
BUT I DON'T KNOW  
HOW YOU GUYS STAND  
HAVING THESE THINGS  
PERMANENTLY  
ATTACHED.





that evening...





@A BIT LATER...

IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU TWO. I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GONNA BE ABLE TO COME BECAUSE OF YOUR WORK, SYDNEY.

WELL, I HAD A LITTLE REALIZATION ABOUT MY WORK.

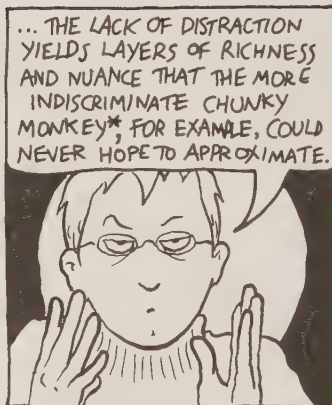
IT'S HER PRIMARY RELATIONSHIP. I'M THE MISTRESS.

IRONICALLY, IT WAS ONLY BY ACKNOWLEDGING THIS THAT I FIND MYSELF ABLE TO FINALLY COMMIT TO BEING WITH MO EXCLUSIVELY.

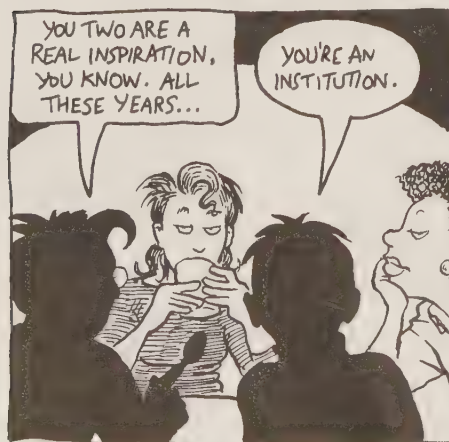
HUH.

SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN CYNICAL ABOUT MONOGAMY, BUT NOW SHE'S GAINING AN APPRECIATION OF ITS DECEPTIVELY SIMPLE ELEGANCE.





\*NO COMPENSATION WAS RECEIVED FOR THIS EGREGIOUS PRODUCT PLACEMENT.







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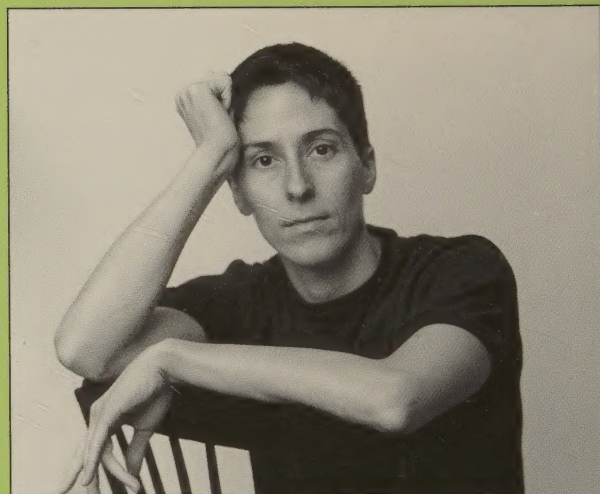
Lesbian Studies/Humor

Mo's having a touch of performativity anxiety—a post-feminist, post-gay kind of moment—as she considers a panoply of possible gender permutations. Angst with her as she inquires: *Is gender essential?* If she were a transsexual woman, a bisexual man, or a straight woman with a penchant for lesbians, would Mo still be a dyke to watch out for?

These and other similarly searching questions of our time are queerly addressed in *Post-Dykes To Watch Out For*, Alison Bechdel's ninth collection on the cartoon continuum.

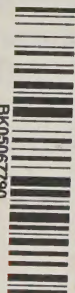
Whether you y for the days when lesbians were wimmin and men were ed to be mutants, or are just over it all, this witty cri on the fringes of heteronormative discourse—i.e., th ight world—will have you doodling in the margins of yo ry books. Put the Mo back in PoMo!

**Multiple Lambda Award-winning Alison Bechdel lives in rural Vermont, where she a o challenge binary thinking.**



ALAN JAKUBEK

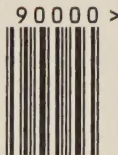
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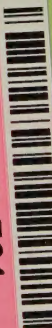


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